

# NATIONAL

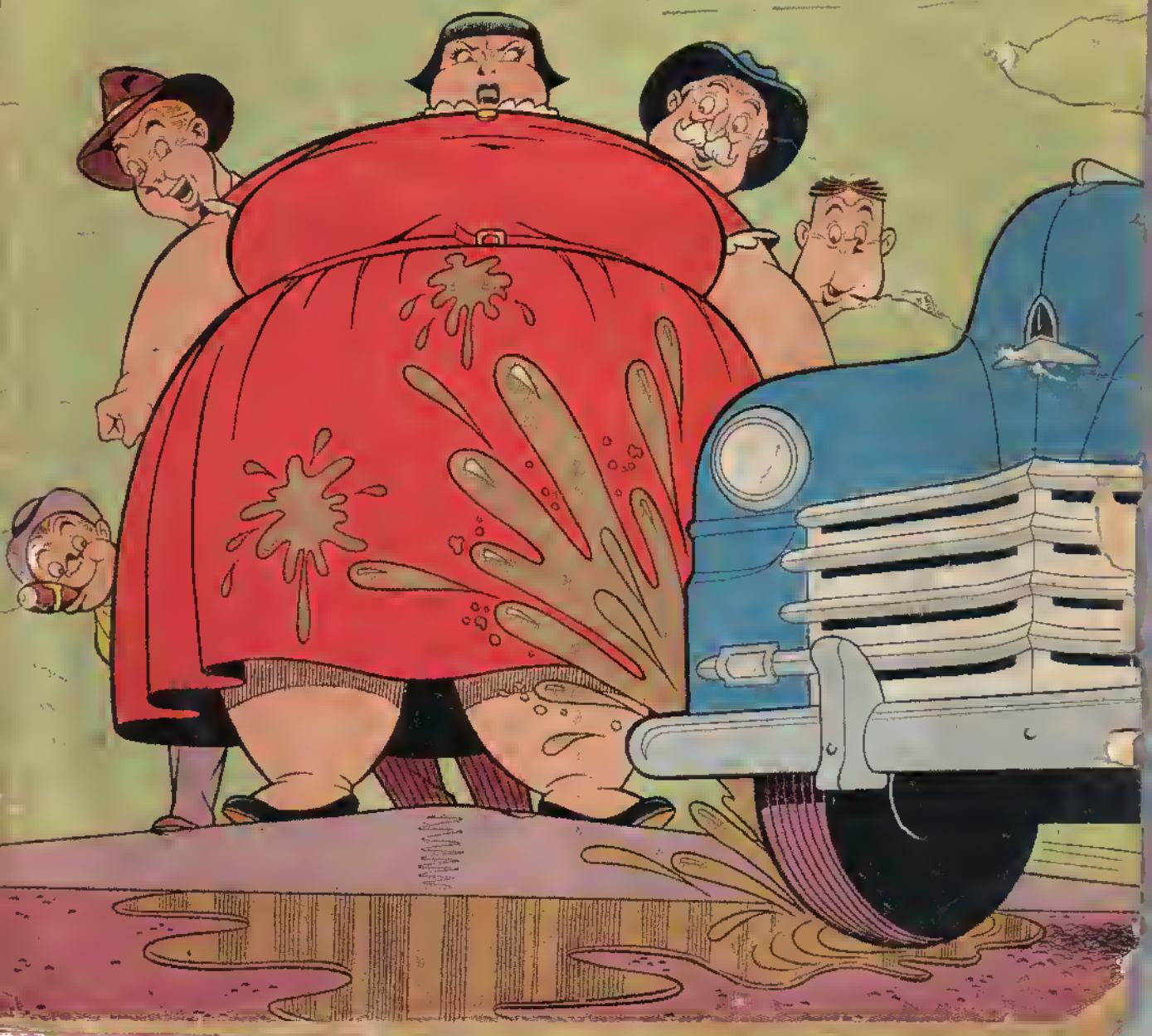
AUGUST  
No. 67

## COMICS

10c

*The* **BARKER**  
debunks **THE CURSE** of  
**ALI BEN RIFF RAFF!**

I don't want her you can't tell  
her she's too fat for me.



# WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM





# THE BARKER

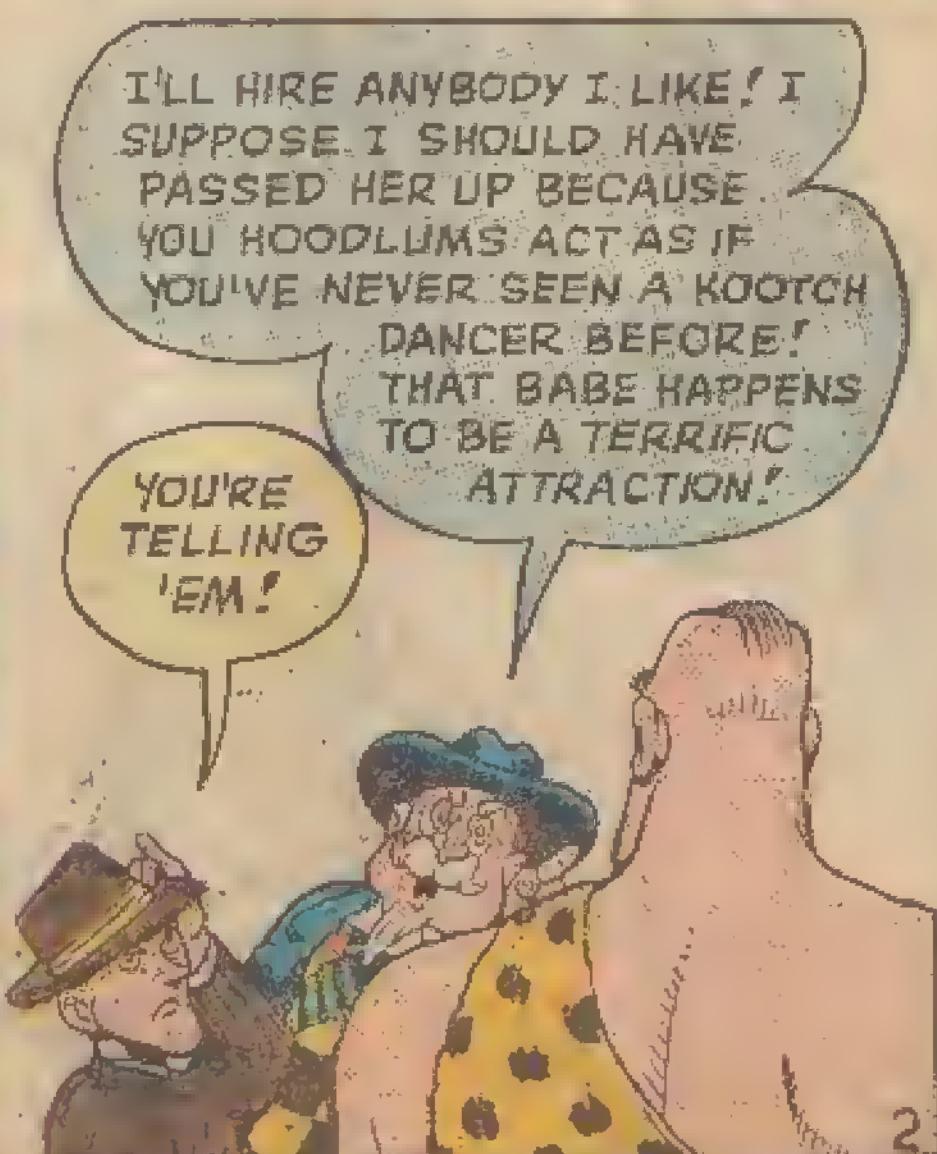
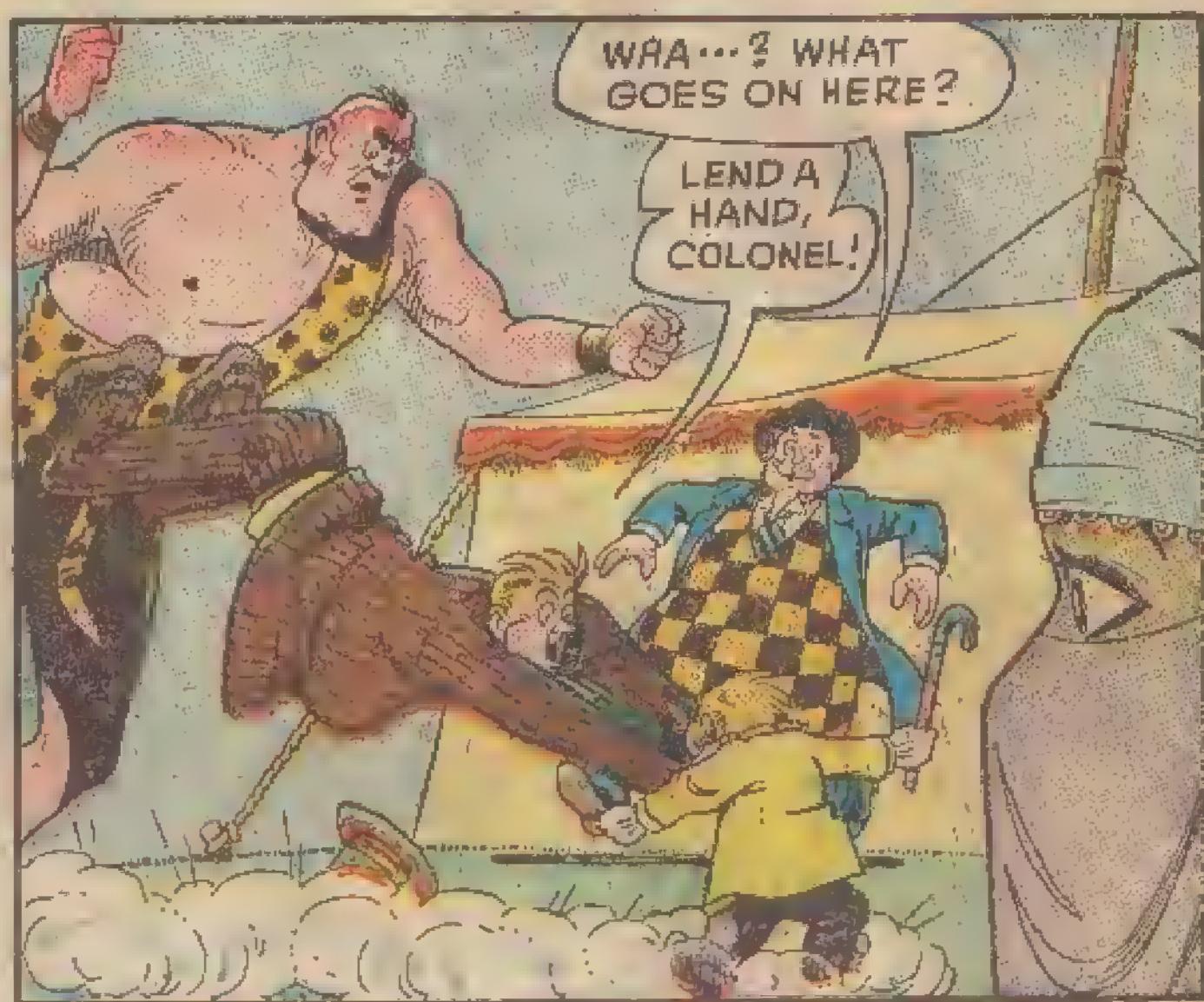
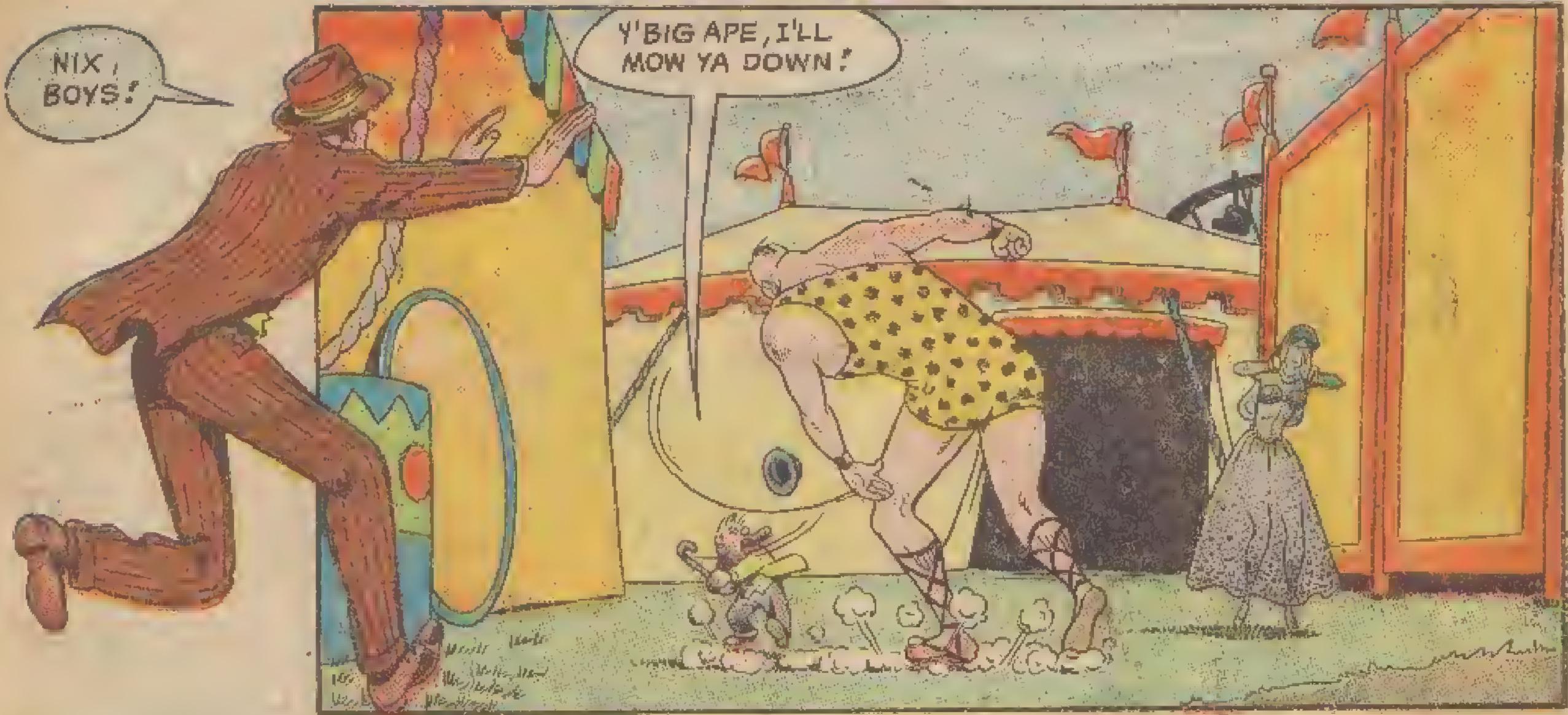
SHE'S SALAMO... THE  
MOST EXQUISITE DANCER  
IN THE WORLD... DIRECT  
FROM A SULTAN'S  
HAREM!

BAM!  
THEY MIGHT  
AS WELL SHOW  
A TRAINED  
SEAL!

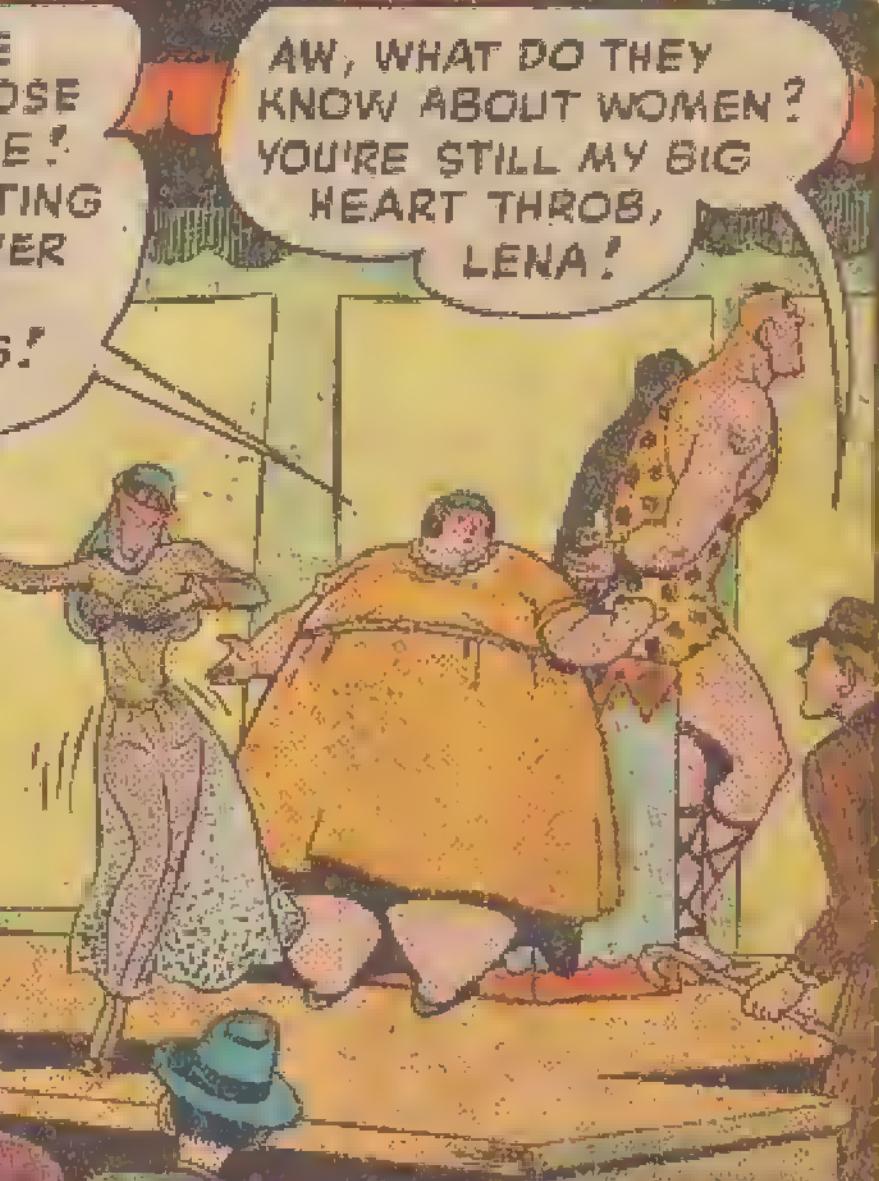
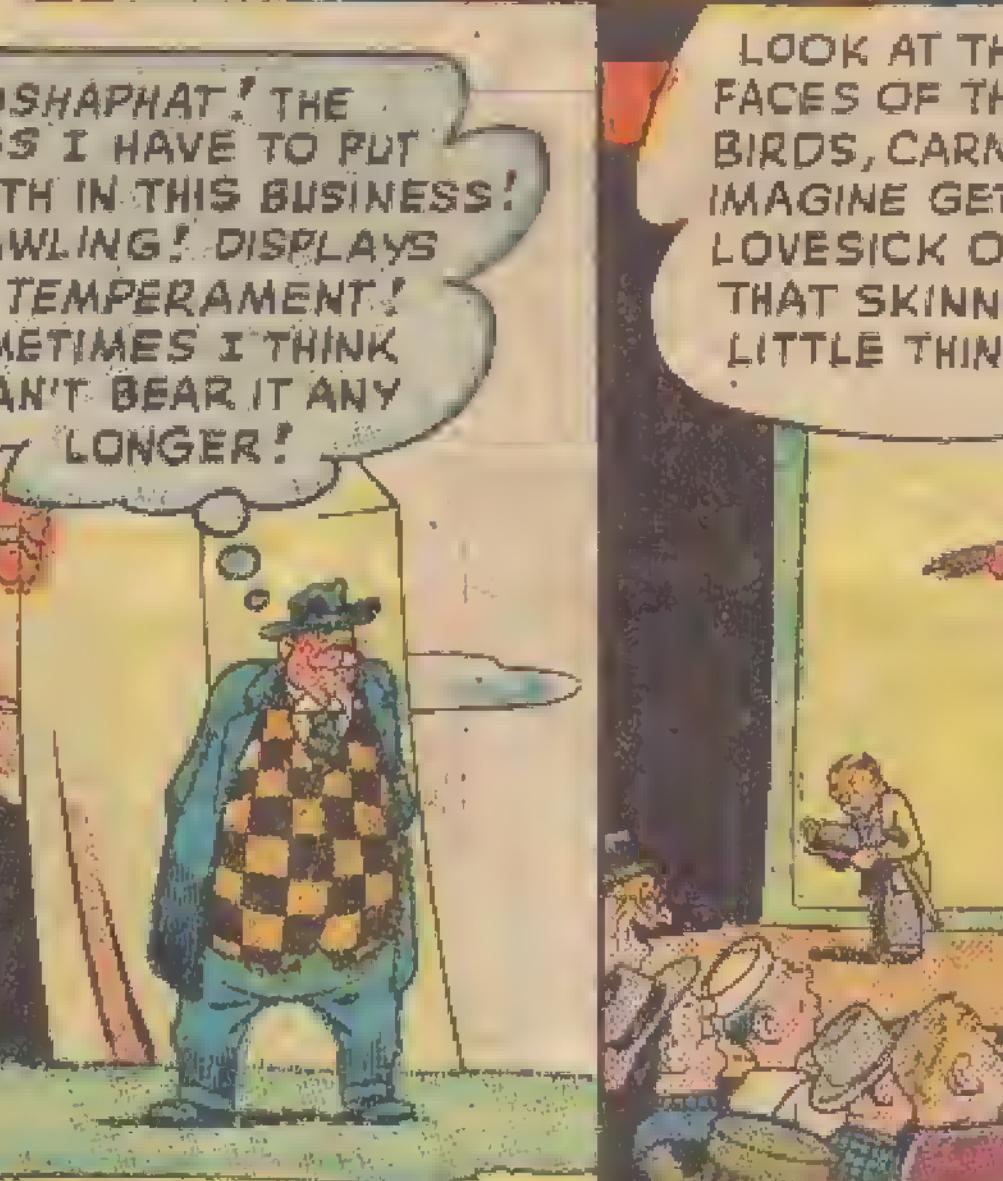
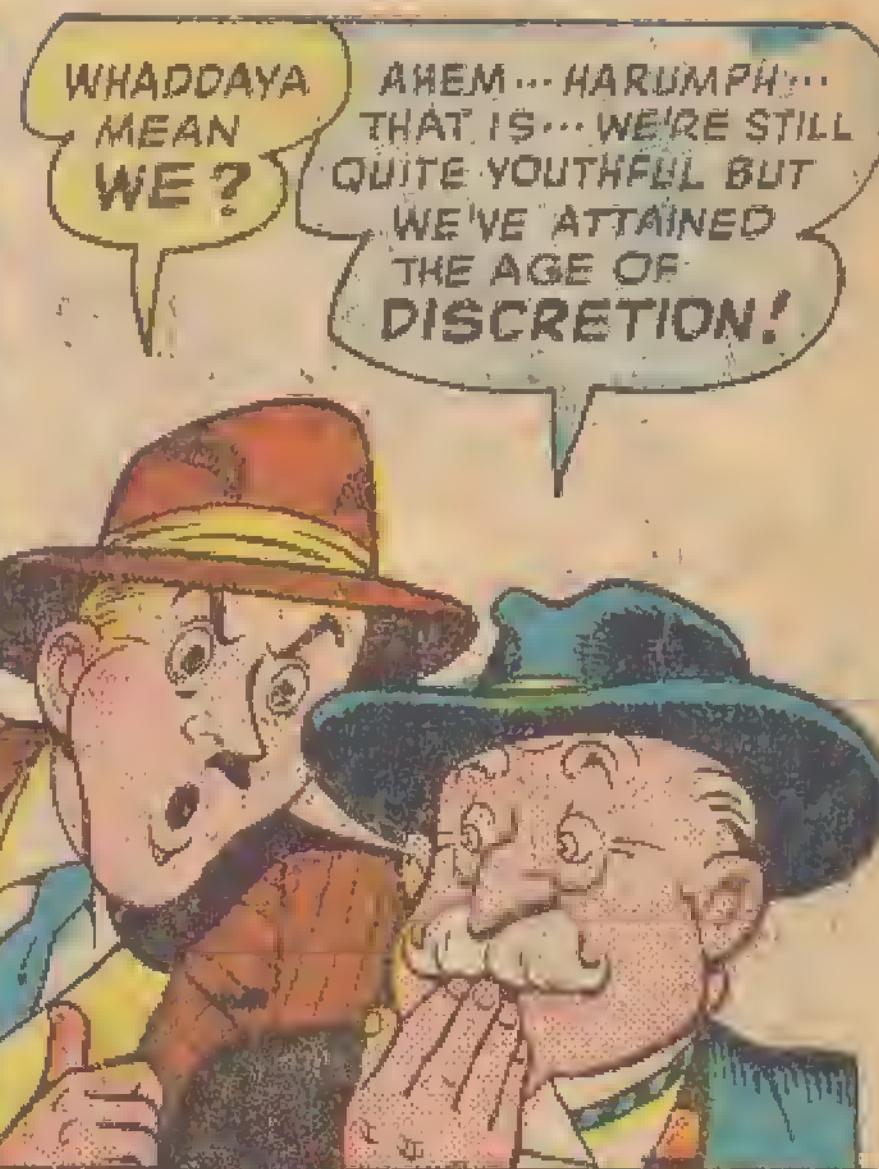
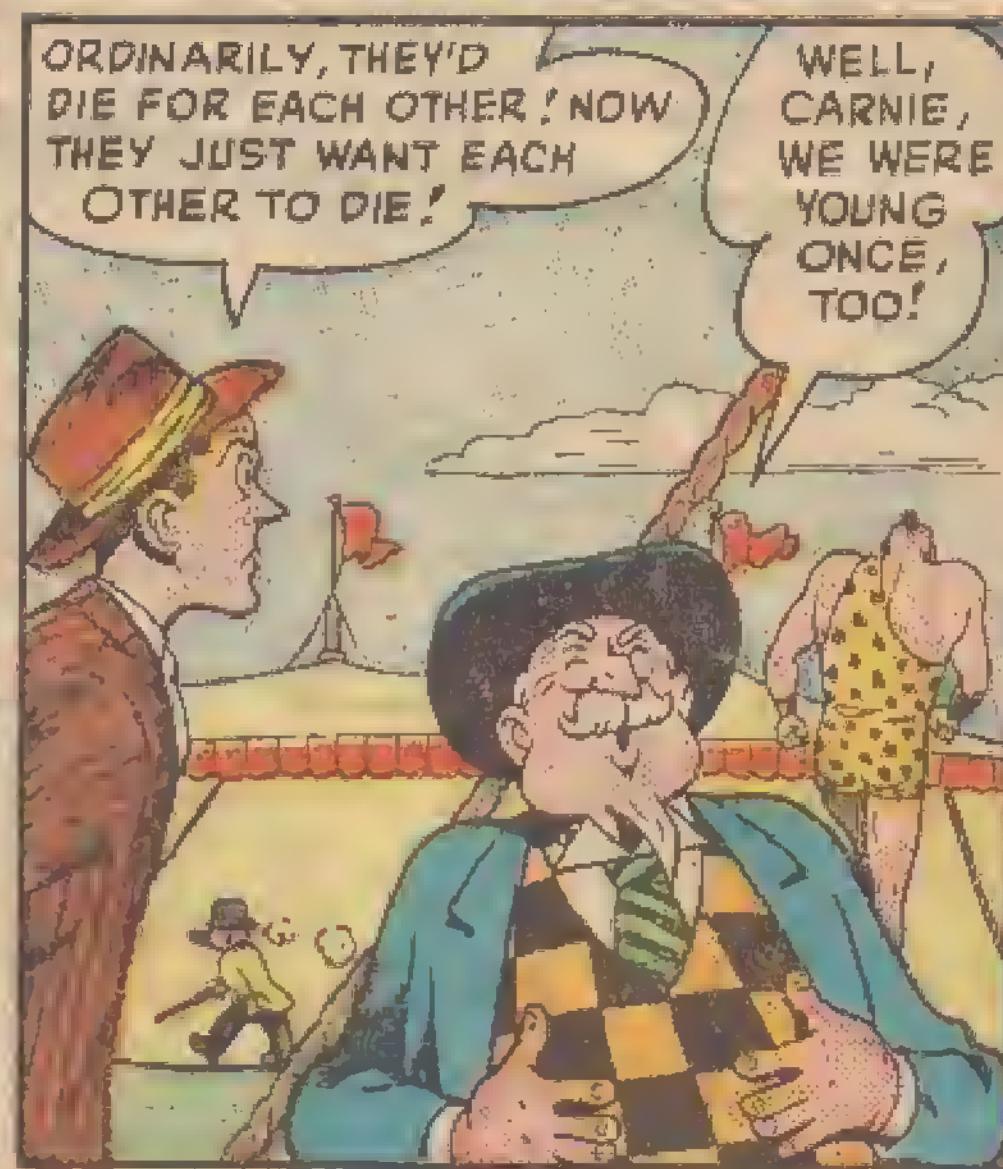
Klaus  
Nordling



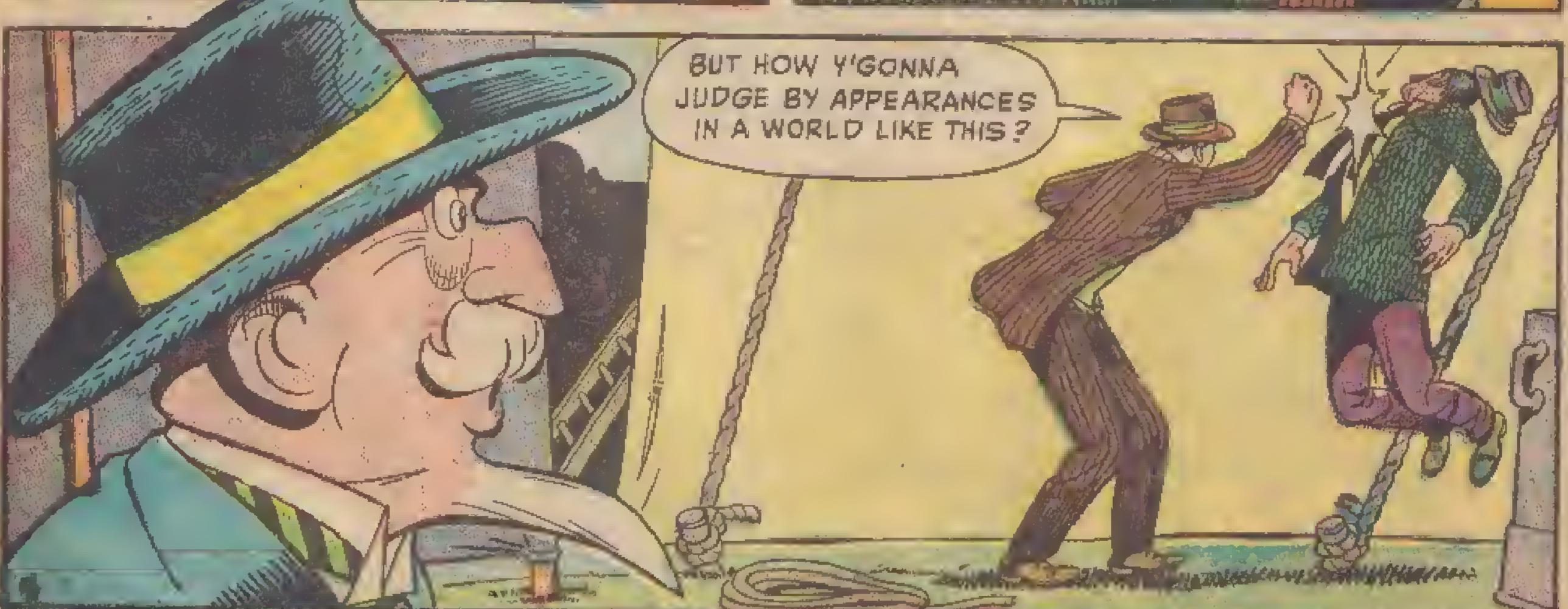
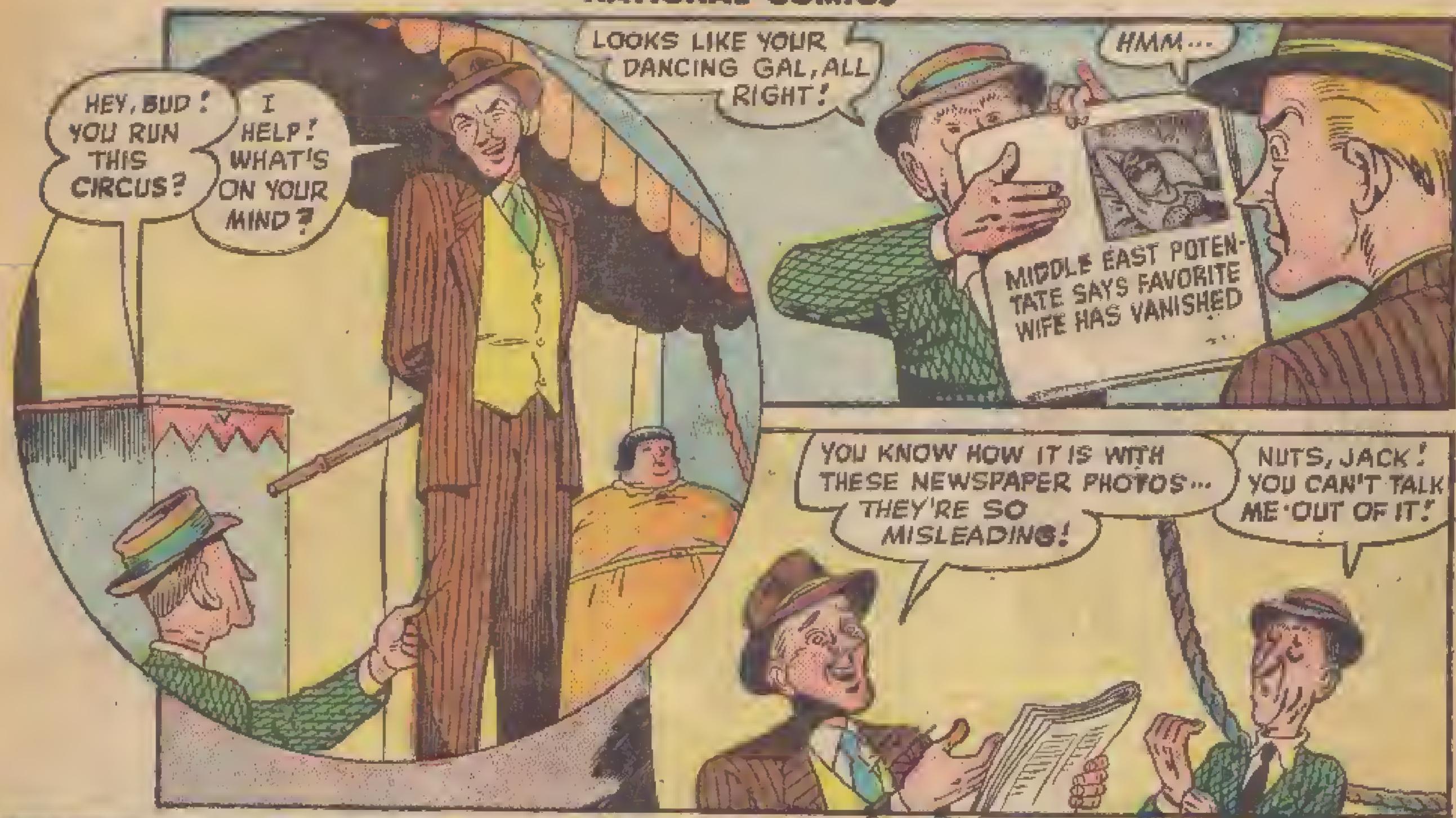
NATIONAL COMICS



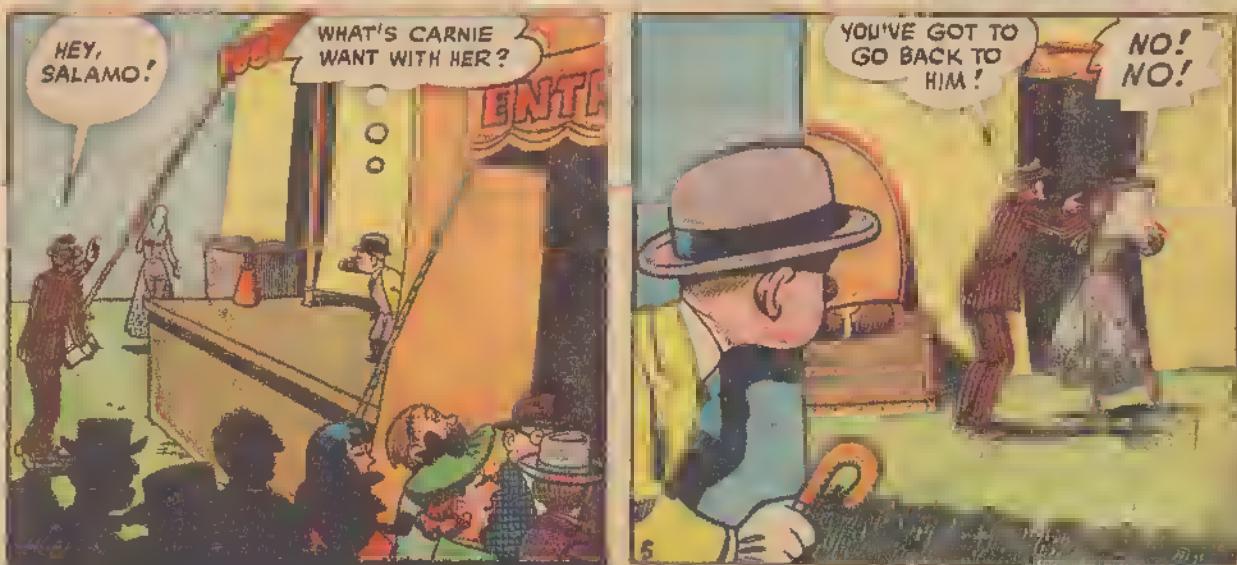
# NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



# NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



# NATIONAL COMICS

WE MUST CONSECRATE  
OUR LIVES TO SAVING  
HER!

CHECK!

THE QUESTION  
IS, WHERE'LL  
WE HIDE HER?

IN ONE OF  
THE PROPERTY  
TRUCKS ... IT  
WON'T BE USED  
UNTIL THE CIRCUS  
MOVES ON! WE  
MAKE THE TRUCK  
HOMELIKE FOR  
HER AND BRING  
HER MEALS  
THERE! LET'S  
GET HER  
THINGS!

MY PERFUMES!  
DID YOU BRING  
THOSE?

I'LL GO  
BACK FOR  
THEM!

ONLY A GUY WITH  
FOUR HANDS  
COULD CARRY  
ALL THESE!  
WHAT DOES  
SHE DO WITH  
'EM ALL?

HERE THEY ARE, SALAMO...  
YOU SURE HAVE PLENTY OF  
THEM, AND SOME OF THE  
BOTTLES LOOK PRETTY  
STRANGE!

NATURALLY, MY  
PROTECTOR ... THEY  
ARE THE EXOTIC  
PERFUMES OF  
THE EAST!

Meanwhile...

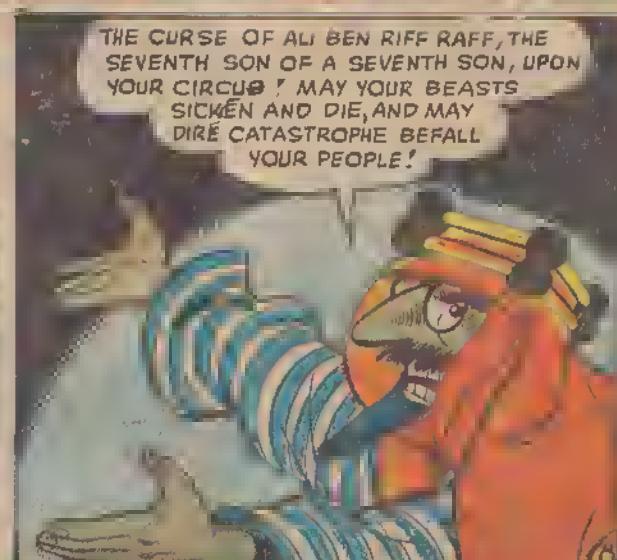
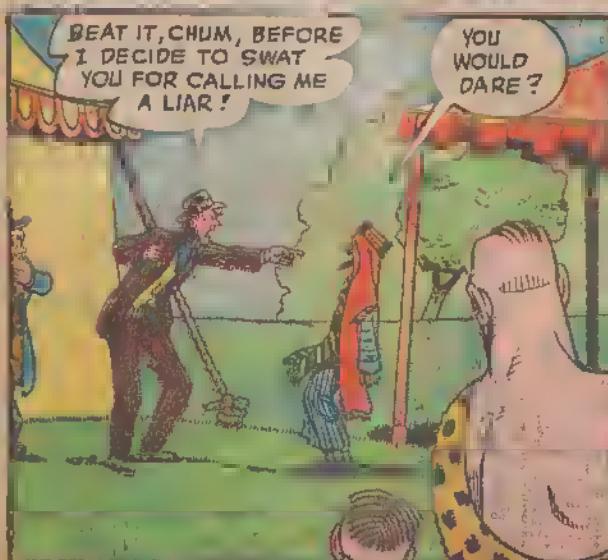
I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO YOU  
FOR THE INFORMATION YOU BRING  
REGARDING THE WHEREABOUTS  
OF MY BELOVED  
FAVORITE!

I KINDA  
THOUGHT YOU'D  
APPRECIATE  
IT!

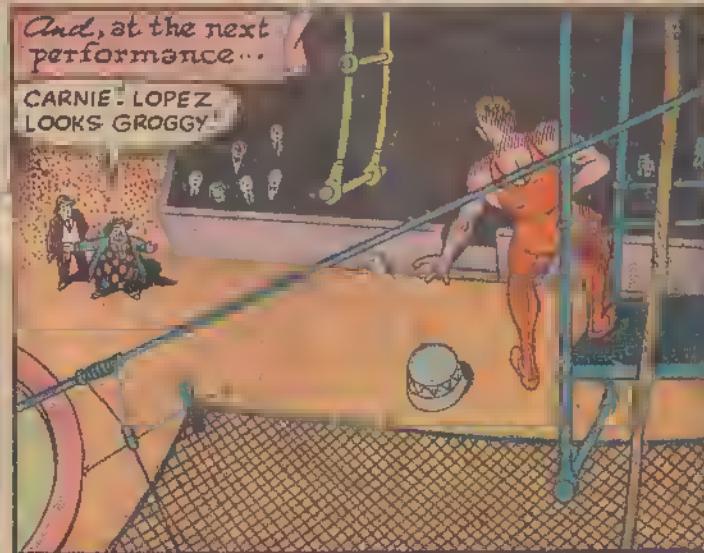
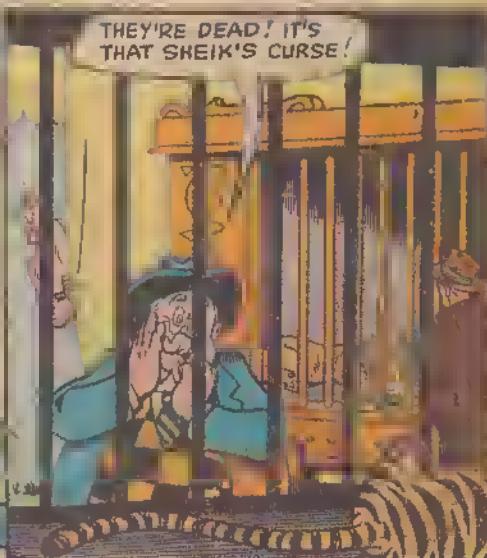
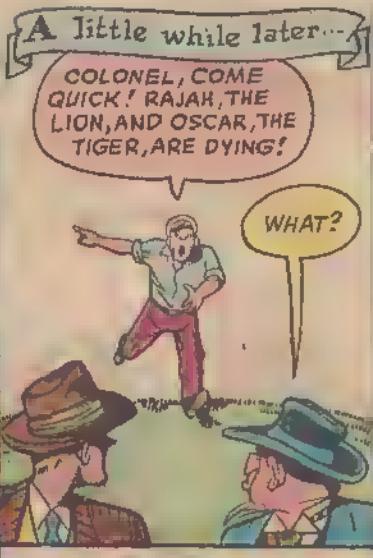
IN TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE, PLEASE  
ACCEPT THIS REWARD OF TWENTY-  
FIVE CENTS IN  
SILVER!

HUH?

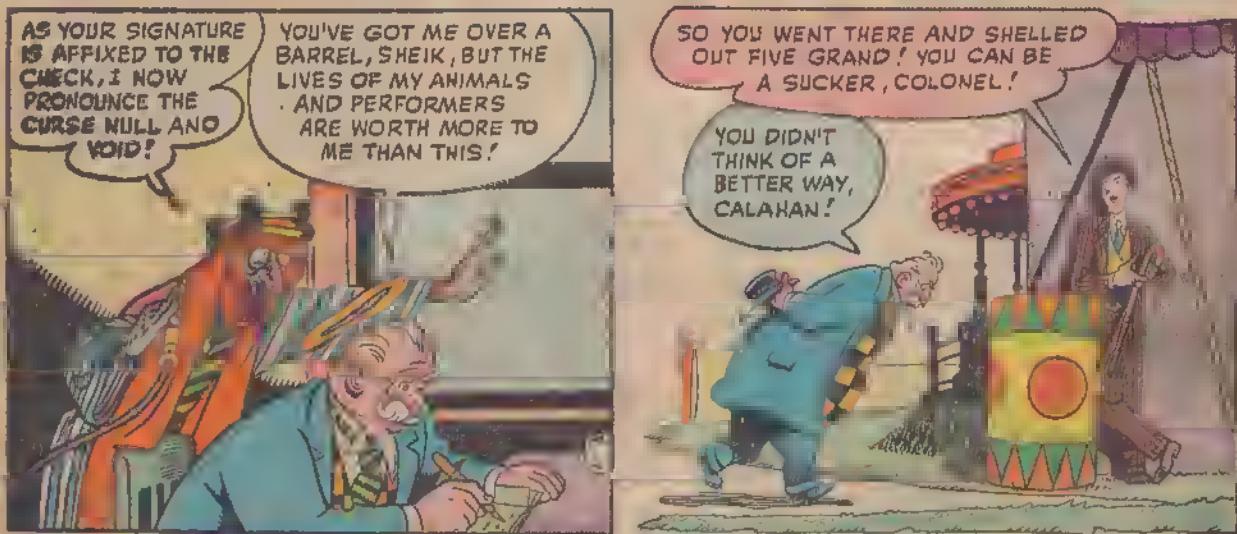
## NATIONAL COMICS



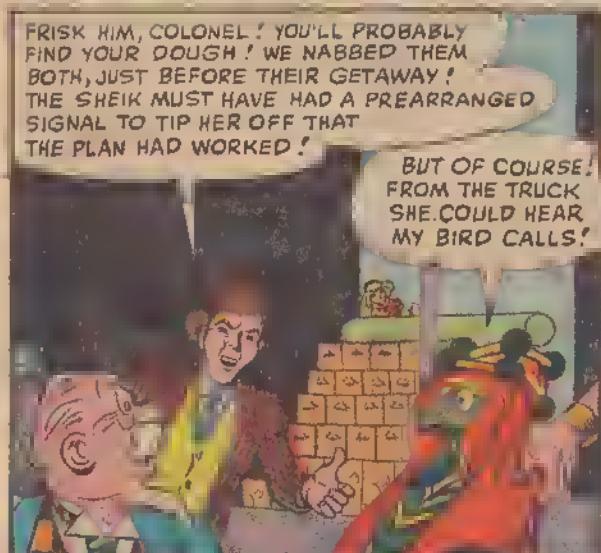
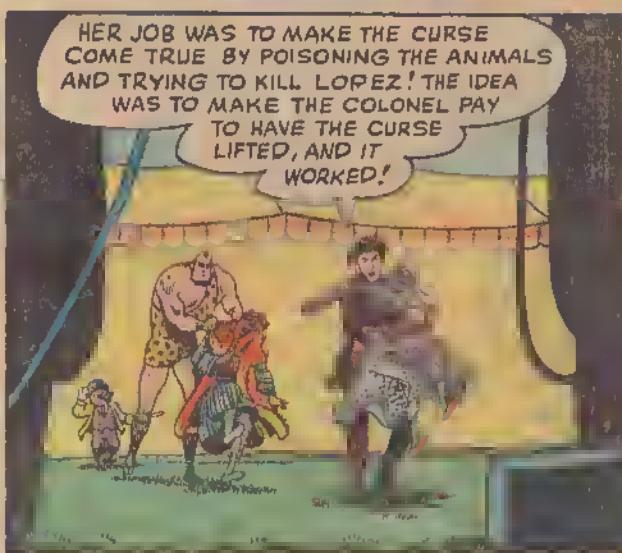
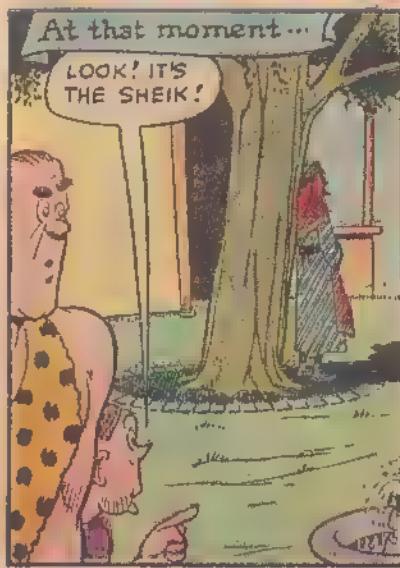
# NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



YOU WERE  
REALLY THERE  
WHEN IT WENT  
OFF, UNCLE  
SALTY?

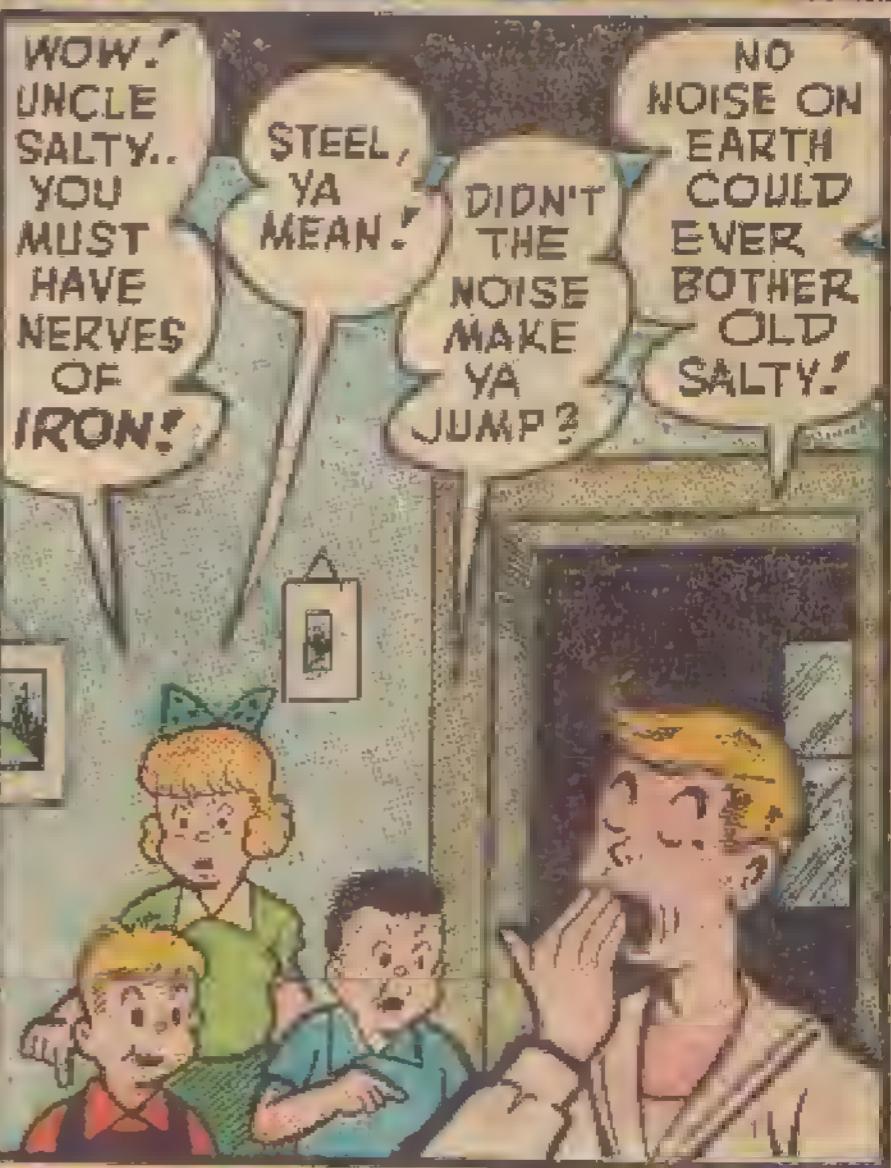
WOW!  
WEREN'T  
YOU  
SCARED?

# Salty Waters

THAT LAST BLAST AT  
BIKINI WAS A FAIR-  
TO-MIDDLIN' FIRE  
CRACKER, BUT THE  
DANGED THING  
INTERFERED WITH A  
POKER GAME WE  
HAD PLANNED!

WHAT'S AN  
ATOMIC BOMB TO  
AN OLD SALT LIKE  
ME?

SHUX,  
NO!



MATTER O'FACT,  
I READ THROUGH  
THE WHOLE THING!



# GRANNY GUMSHOE

BUT I DON'T  
WANT TO FALL  
IN LOVE,  
CUPID!

IT'S NOT YER HEART  
I'M AFTER, LADY...  
IT'S YER DOUGH!

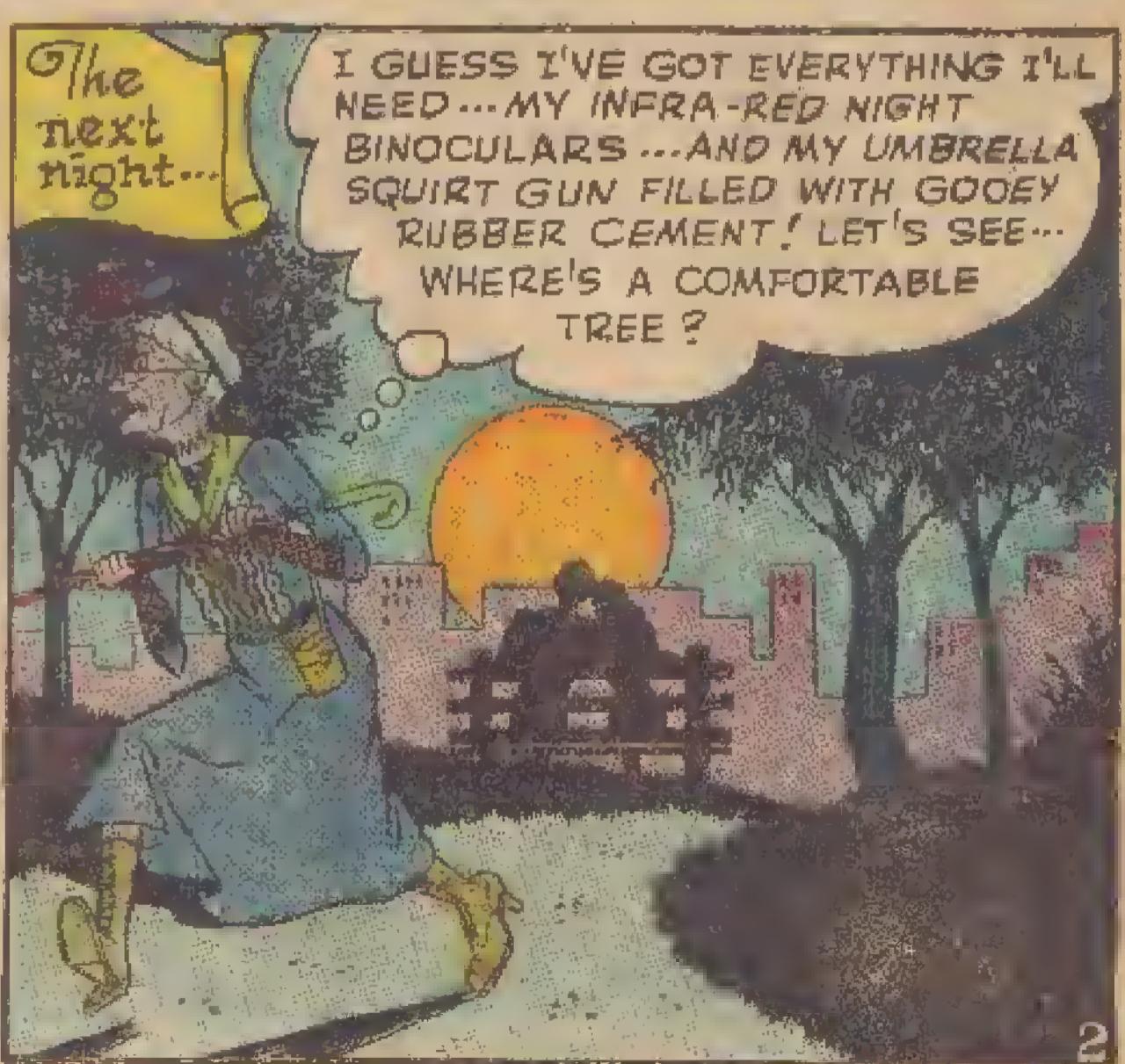
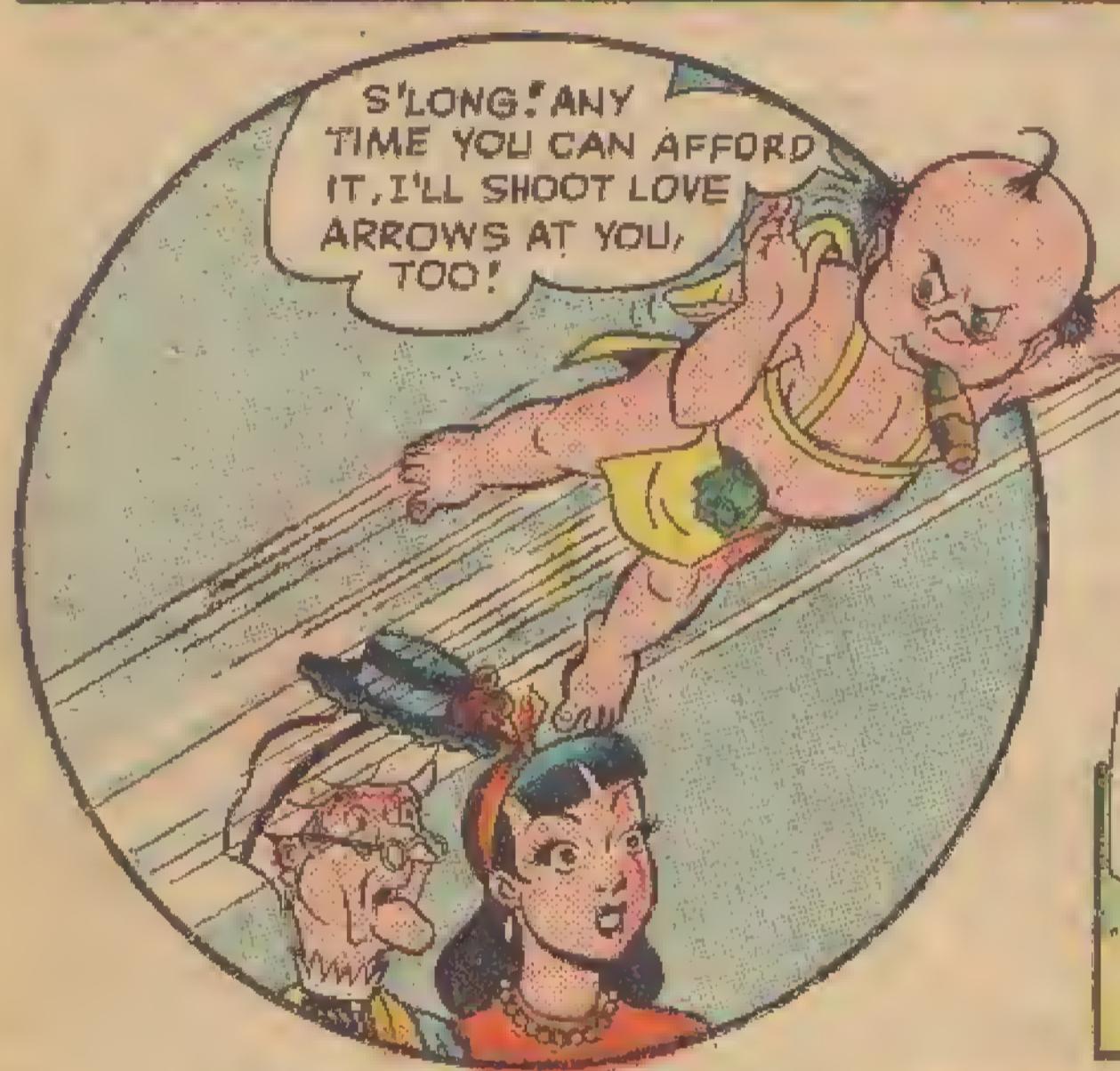
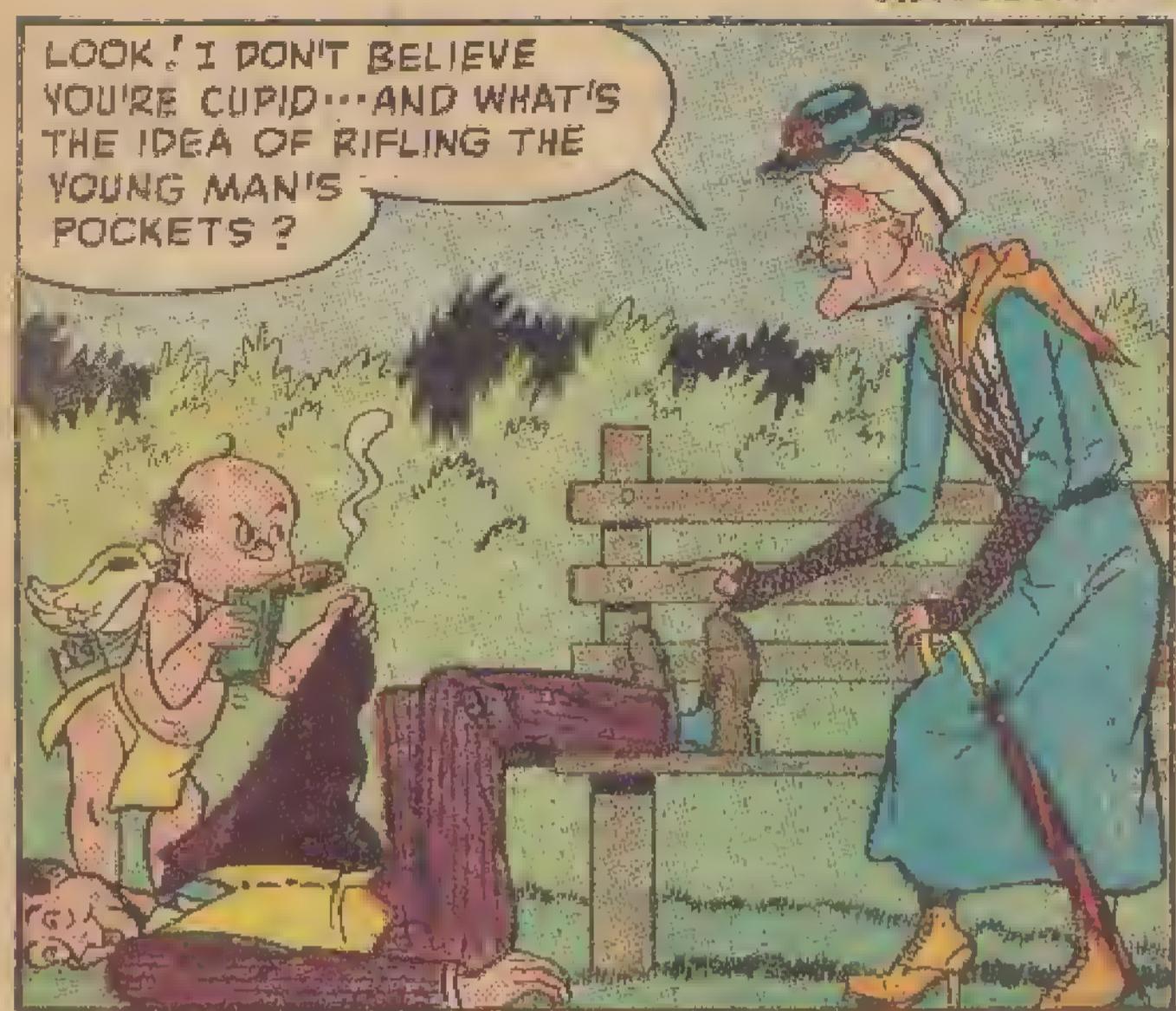
AHHH! THIS BEAUTIFUL EVENING HAS AFFECTED THIS YOUNG MAN! HE'S TRYING TO MEET THE YOUNG LADY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF ME!

I MUST BE IN LOVE!  
LOOK! HERE COMES CUPID!

AHHH!

CLUNK!



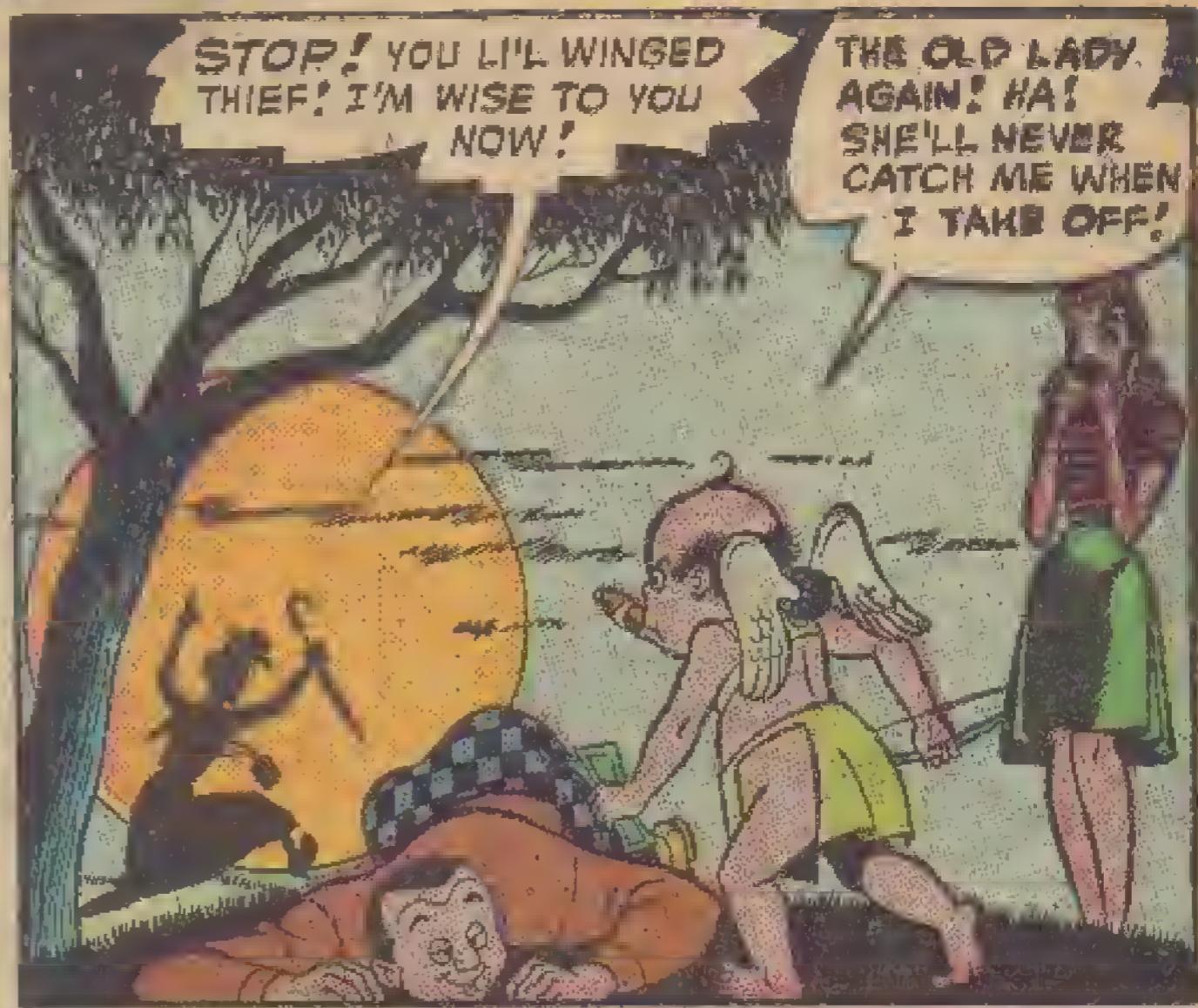
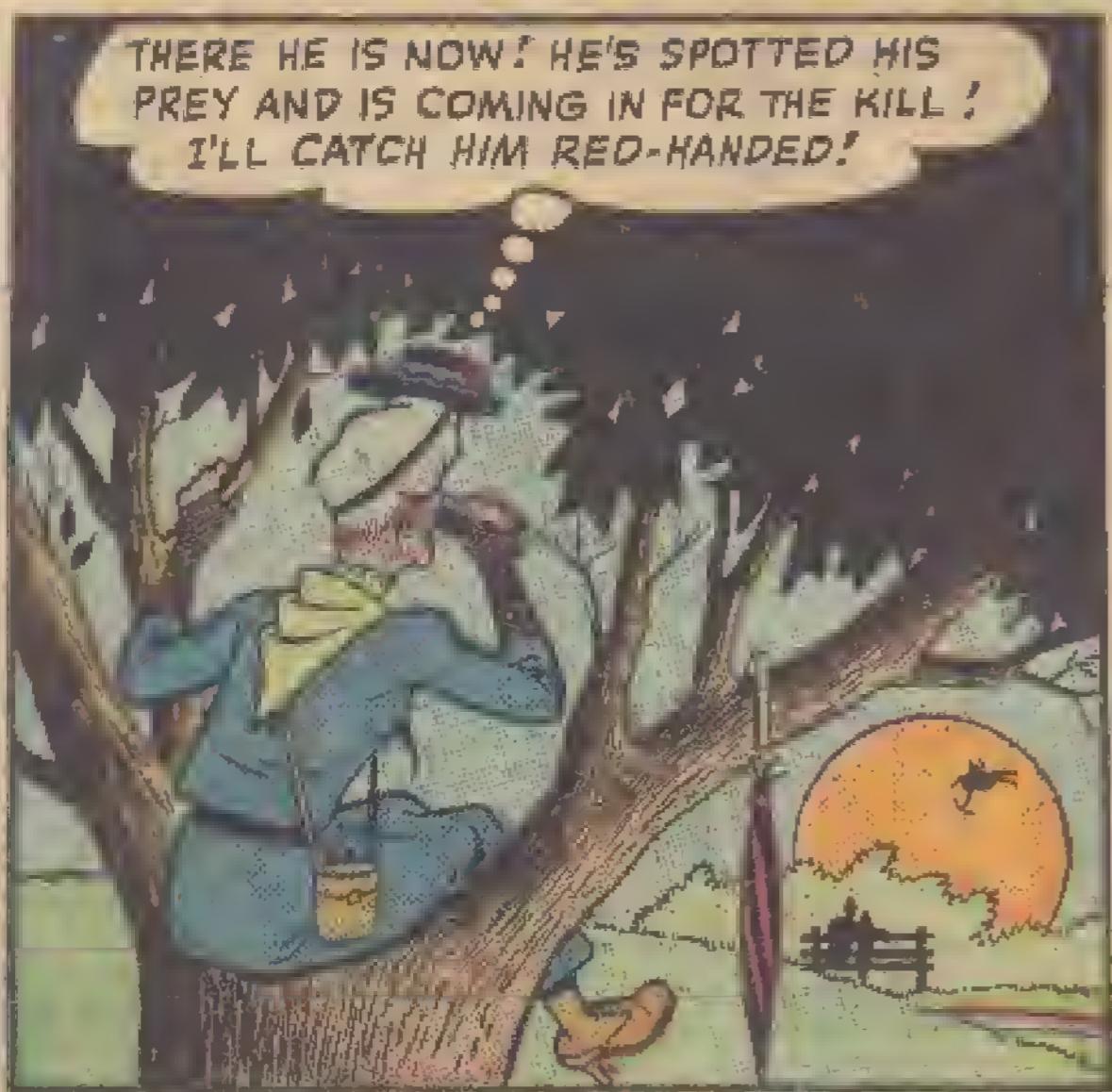


NATIONAL COMICS

THERE HE IS NOW! HE'S SPOTTED HIS PREY AND IS COMING IN FOR THE KILL!  
I'LL CATCH HIM RED-HANDED!

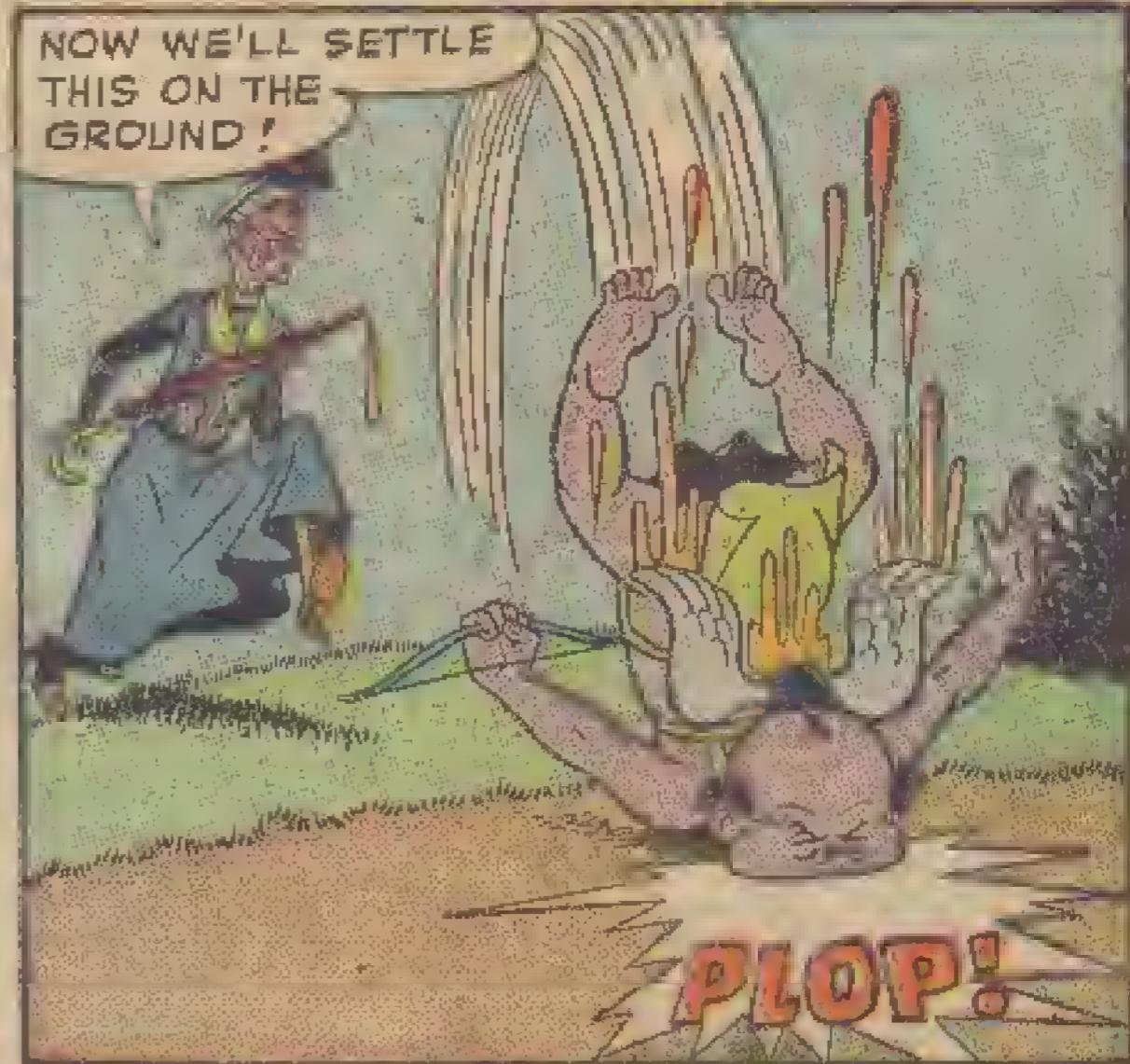
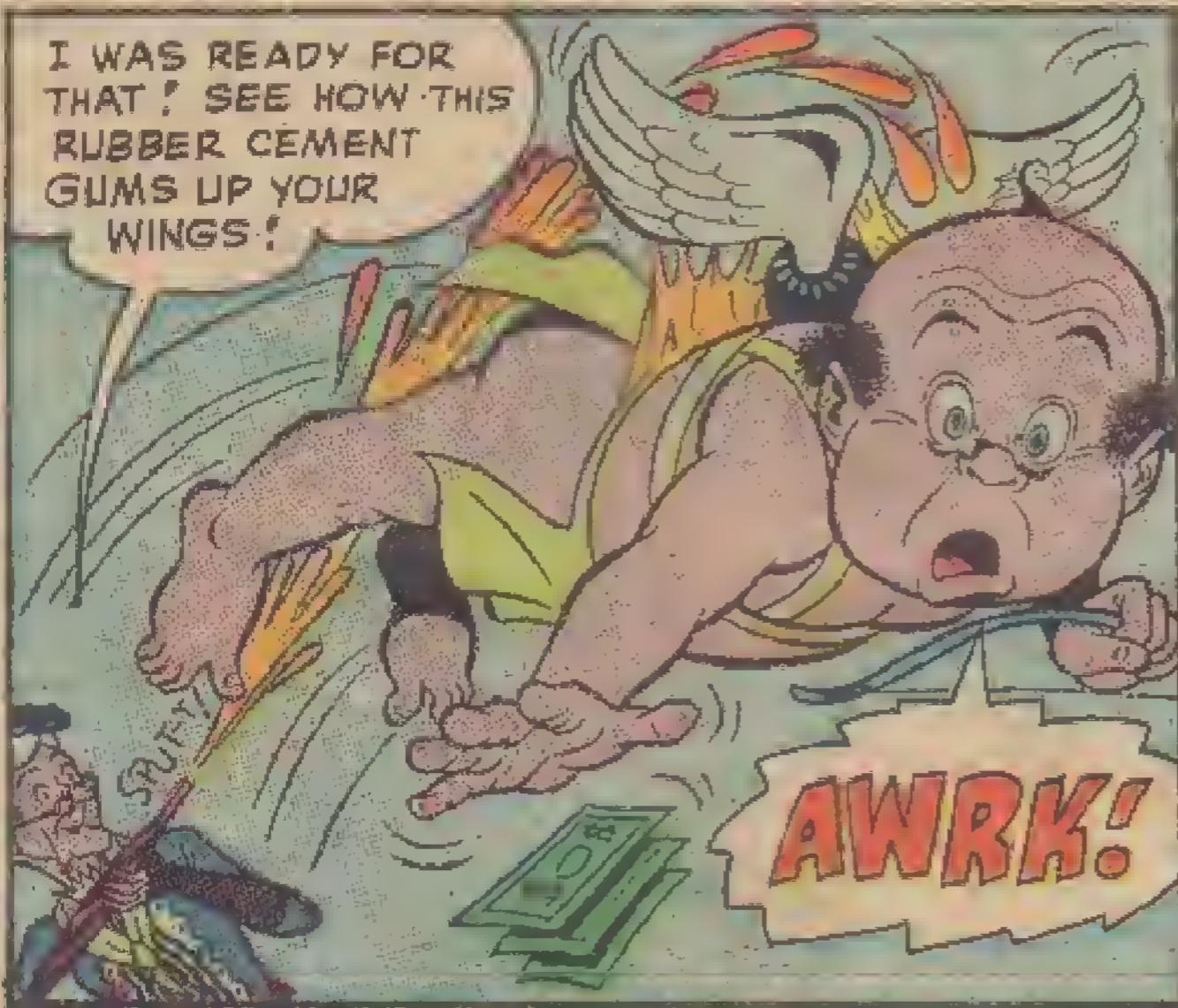
STOP! YOU LI'L WINGED THIEF! I'M WISE TO YOU NOW!

THE OLD LADY AGAIN! HA!  
SHE'LL NEVER CATCH ME WHEN I TAKE OFF!



I WAS READY FOR THAT! SEE HOW THIS RUBBER CEMENT GUMS UP YOUR WINGS!

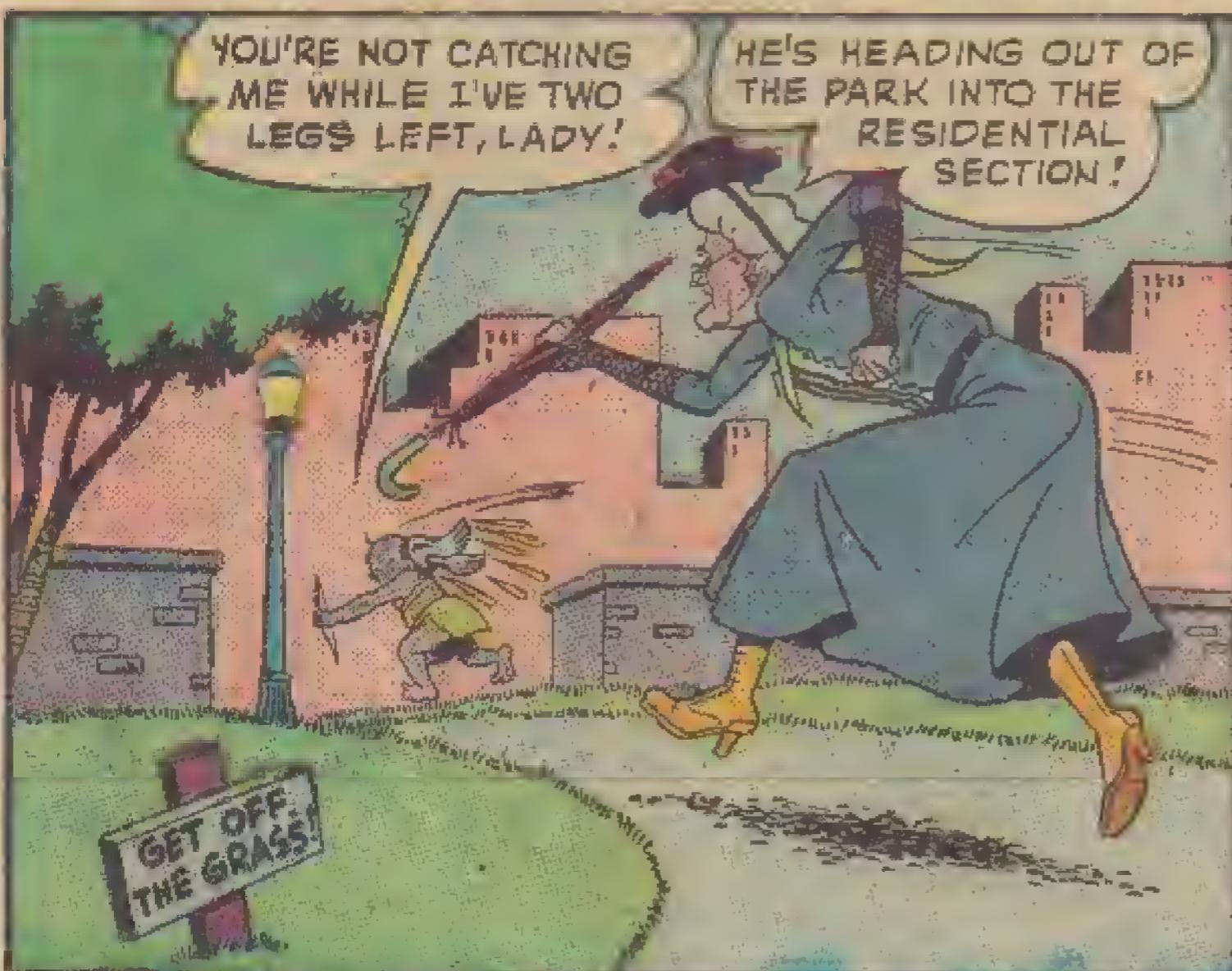
NOW WE'LL SETTLE THIS ON THE GROUND!



YOU'RE NOT CATCHING ME WHILE I'VE TWO LEGS LEFT, LADY!

HE'S HEADING OUT OF THE PARK INTO THE RESIDENTIAL SECTION!

SHE'S A TOUGH OLD BUZZARD! STILL ON MY TAIL! I BETTER STOP HER IF I EXPECT TO GET TO MY HIDEOUT WITHOUT BEING SEEN!



# NATIONAL COMICS

THIS'LL STOP HER LONG  
ENOUGH FOR ME TO CLEAN  
THIS GOO OFF MY WINGS  
SO I CAN FLY!

THAT FALL STUNNED  
ME FOR A SECOND!  
SAY! THERE GOES  
CUPID INTO THAT  
FIFTH-STORY  
HOTEL WINDOW!

I'LL ASK  
THE HOTEL  
CLERK ABOUT  
THIS!

YES, WE HAVE A MIDGET RESIDING  
HERE ON THE FIFTH FLOOR... HE USED  
TO BE IN THE CIRCUS AND HIS  
NAME IS DON THIMBLE!

THAT'S ALL I WANT  
TO KNOW! I'LL BE  
RIGHT BACK!

I'VE BOUGHT EVERYTHING I'LL  
NEED... BLACK PAINT AND BRUSH!  
HOW TO GET BACK TO THE  
HOTEL?

PAINTS  
VARNISHES

THERE GOES  
THE LIL RASCAL  
OUT TO LOOT SOME  
MORE LOVERS!  
THIS IS MY  
CHANCE TO GET  
INTO HIS ROOM!

IF YOU'RE A FRIEND OF MR.  
THIMBLE'S AS YOU SAY, I'M  
SURE HE WON'T MIND  
YOUR WAITING IN HIS  
ROOM UNTIL HE  
RETURNS!

THANK  
YOU!

# NATIONAL COMICS

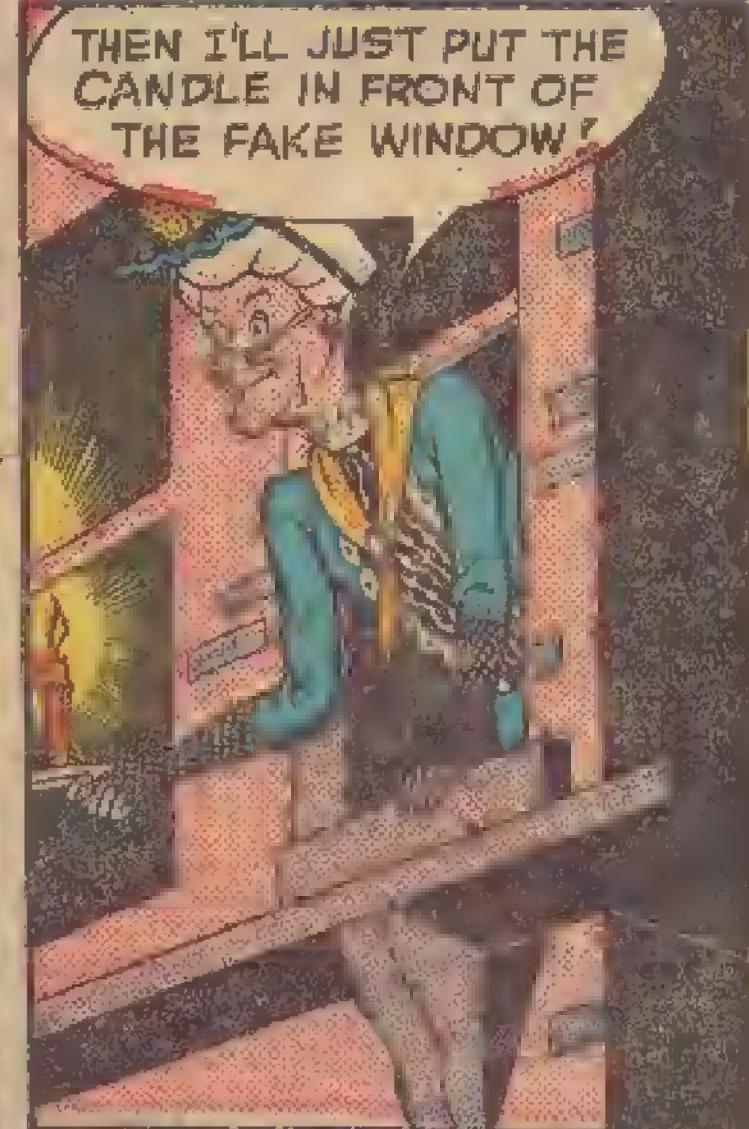
NOW TO GET TO WORK! MAYBE HE USES THIS CANDLE TO GUIDE HIM WHEN HE FLIES BACK AT NIGHT! HE'LL SEE THE LIGHT, ALL RIGHT, BUT IT WON'T BE IN THIS WINDOW!



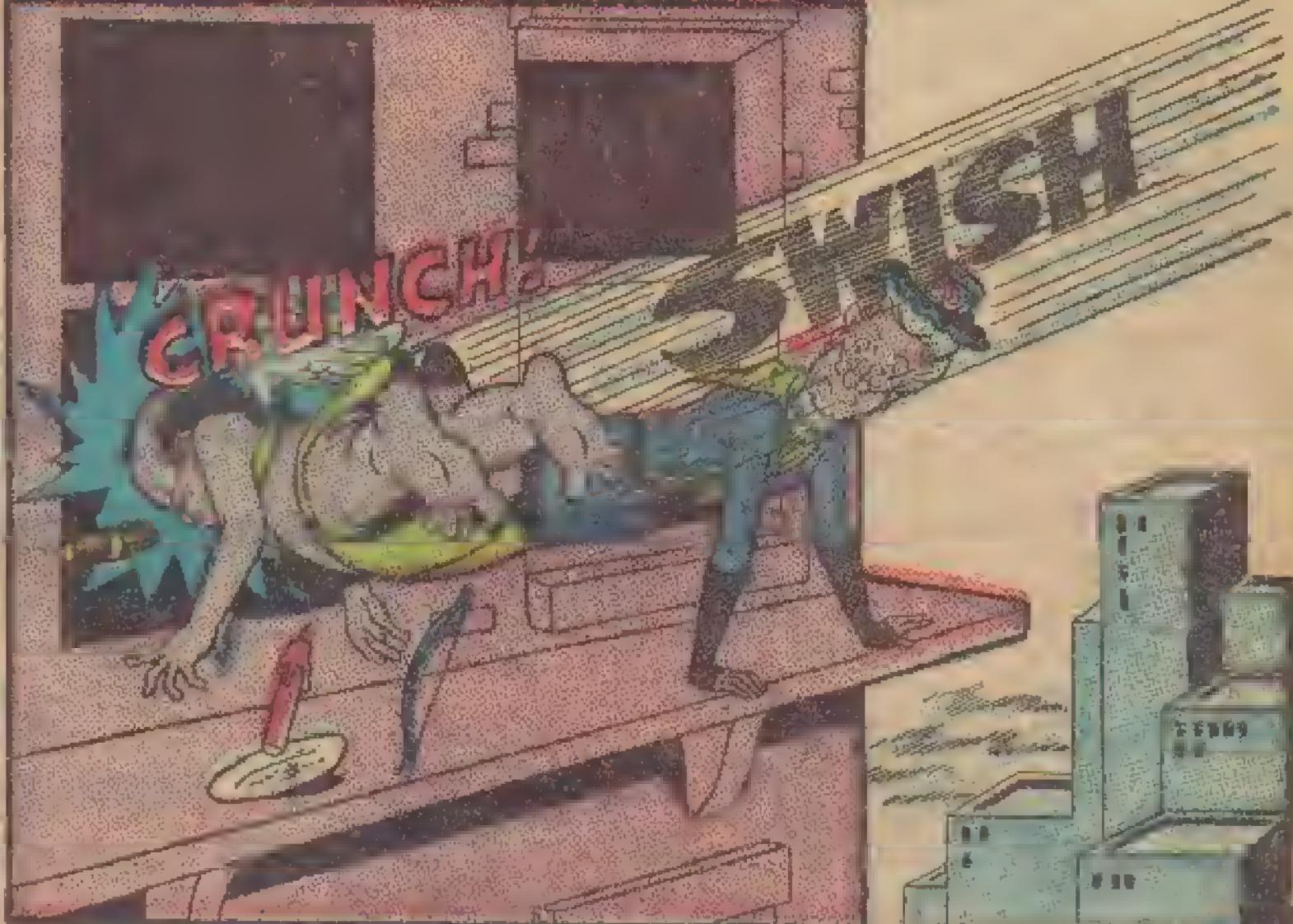
FIRST I'LL PAINT THIS FALSE WINDOW ON THE OUTSIDE WALL!



THEN I'LL JUST PUT THE CANDLE IN FRONT OF THE FAKE WINDOW!



HERE HE COMES NOW... GOING LIKE A CANNON BALL!



AH, MY LITTLE PIGEON... YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO BE A JAIL BIRD!



AND YOU USED THOSE MECHANICAL WINGS IN A CIRCUS ACT, EH?

YEAH!  
THEY WORKED ALL  
RIGHT IN THE  
CIRCUS, BUT I  
GUESS THEY'RE  
NO GOOD FOR  
LOVE!



RIGHT! YOU'D BETTER THINK THAT OVER WHEN YOU GO TO PRISON! LOVE IS ONE THING THAT DOESN'T TOLERATE MECHANICAL WINGS!

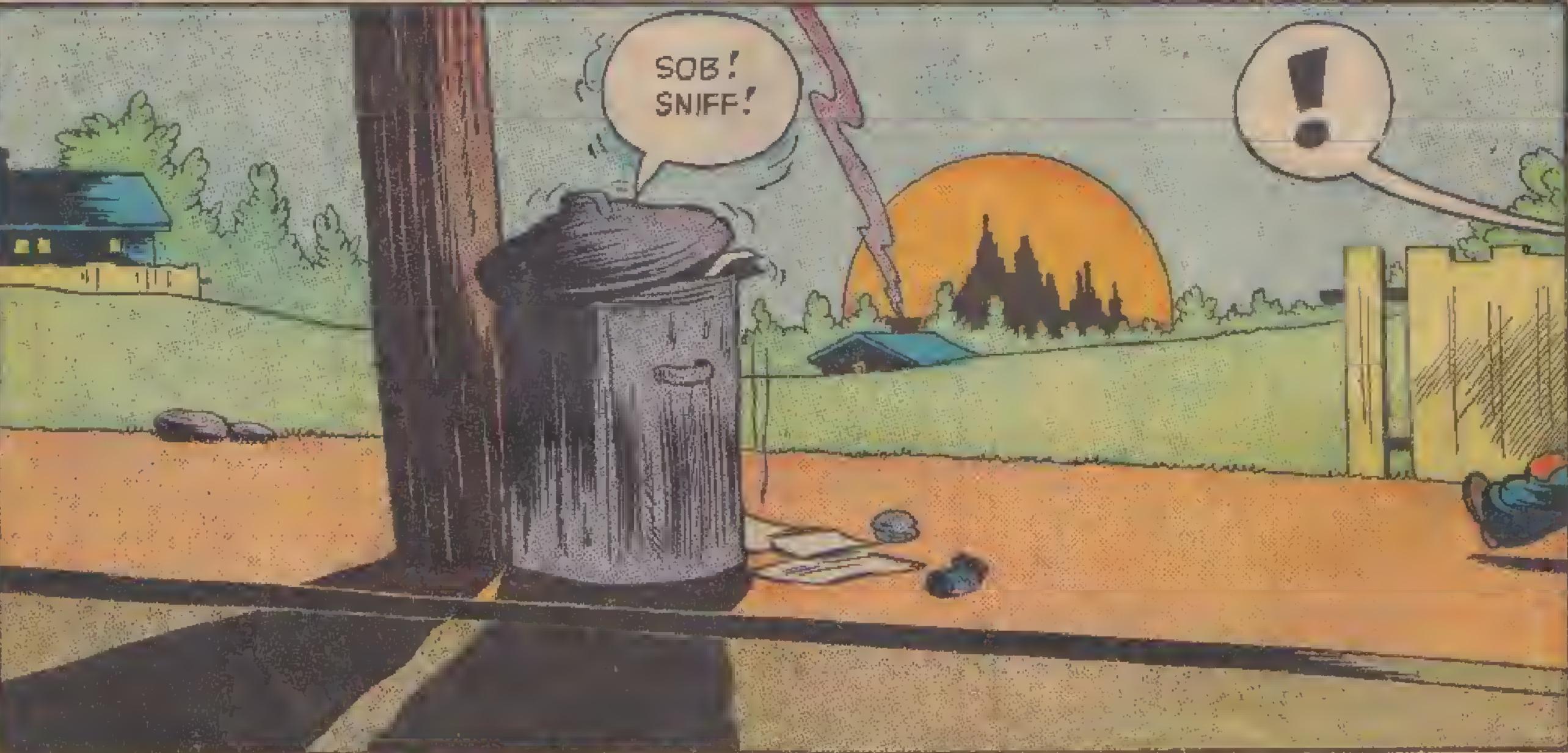


AN

SAY! HOW DO YOU SPELL  
**ANTHROP?**  
THAT'S ME NAME!



SOB!  
SNIFF!

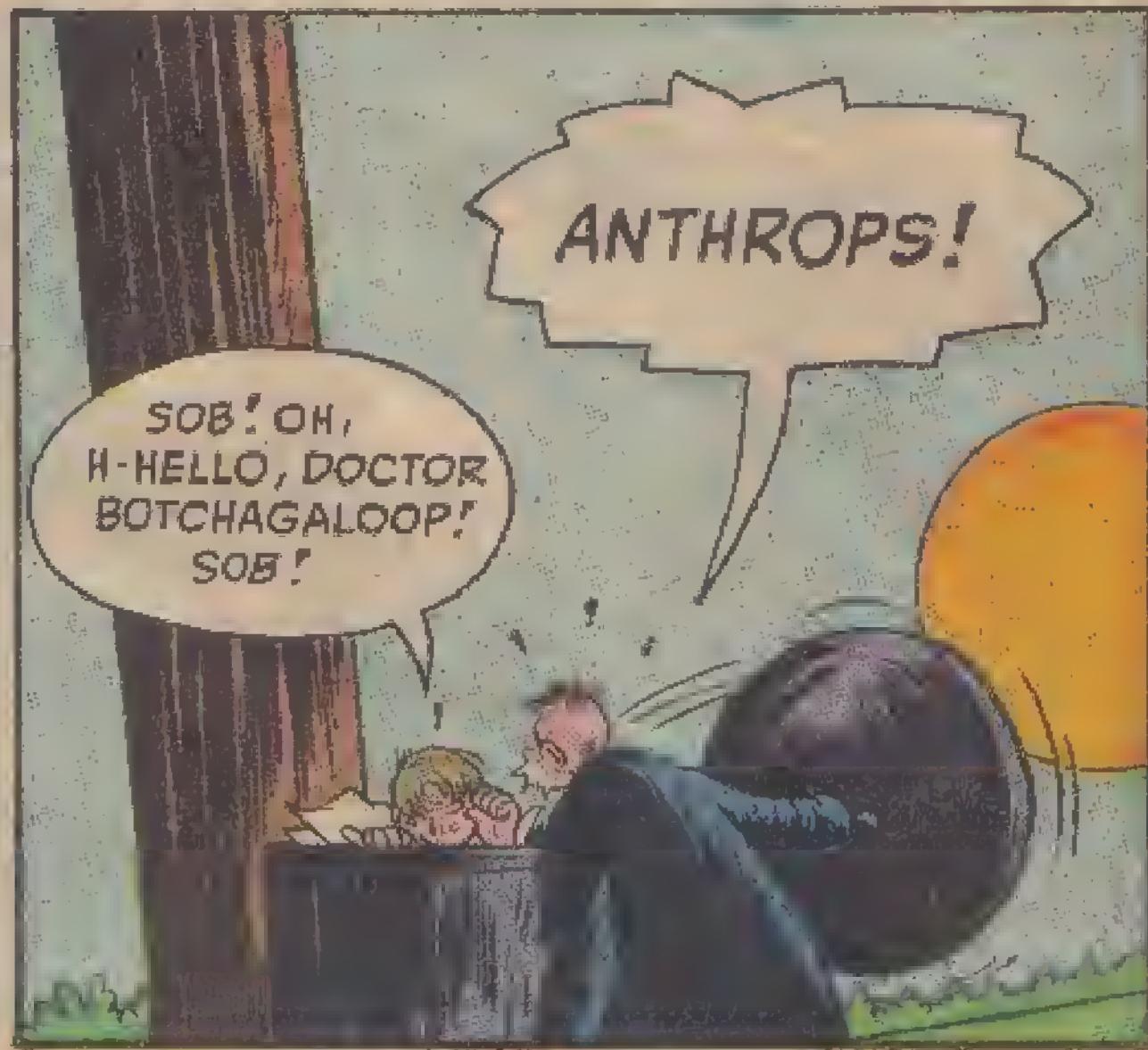
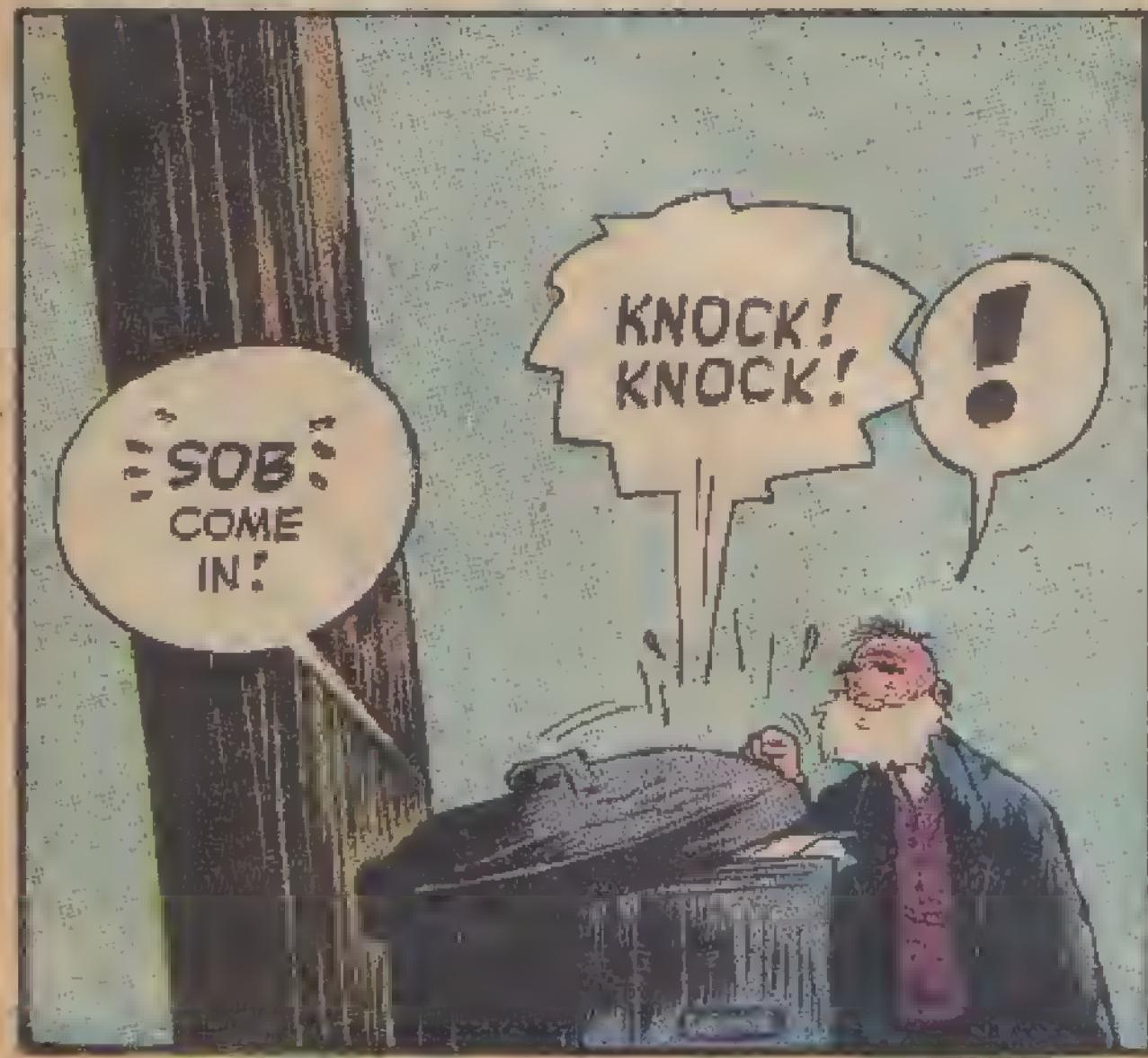


:SOB:  
COME  
IN!

KNOCK!  
KNOCK!

ANTHROPS!

SOB! OH,  
H-HELLO, DOCTOR  
BOTCHAGALOOPE!  
SOB!



ANTHROPS---WHY YET ISS  
YOU BE HIDINK IN CAN  
GARBAGES, AND WHY YET  
ISS YOU NOT BEINK  
HOME WITH YOUR  
OL' LADY AND OL' MAN.  
I'M ASKINK LIKE?

HOME,  
HE SAYS!  
SOB!

YIPES!

IF Y-YOU...SOB...  
HAD A **SCHOOL  
REPORT CARD**  
LIKE THAT...YOU  
WOULDN'T GO  
HOME EITHER!  
SOB!

ANTHROPS---HOW CAN YOU  
YET BE SO STUPIDS GATTINK  
SUCH STINKINK REPORTS  
CARS MARKS, I AM  
ASKINK YET!

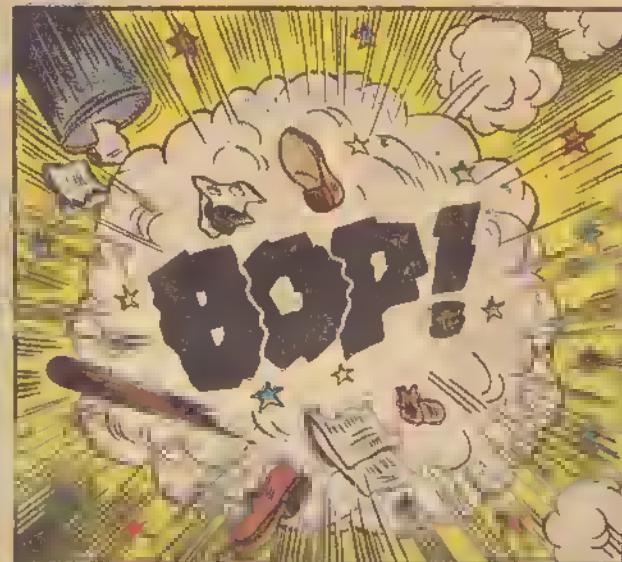
STUPID, HE  
SAYS! YUH  
THINK IT'S EASY,  
HUH? CAN I  
HELP IT IF ME  
**BRAIN** IS  
OVER-TALENTED  
WITH STUPIDITY?  
SOB!

**BRAIN! BRAIN!** THAT'S  
IT, ANTHROPS! THAT'S IT!  
IT IS CAUSES OF YOUR  
BAD MARKS! LUCKY  
FOR YOU I'M CRACK  
**PSYCHIATWIST**  
BY PROFESSION  
YET!

HMM... JUST BE  
HOLDINK THAT  
POSE FOR ONE  
MINUTES!  
**EXAMINATIONS**  
IS COMINK!

SNIFF!





ANTHROPS! G-GULP! BE PREPARINK  
YOURSELF FOR **SHOCKING NOOSEES!**  
I BE MAKINK MOST AMAZINK  
DISCOVERY IN PSYCHIATWIST  
PROFESSION'S HISTORY...  
YOU... SOB! ANTHROPS...  
YOU...

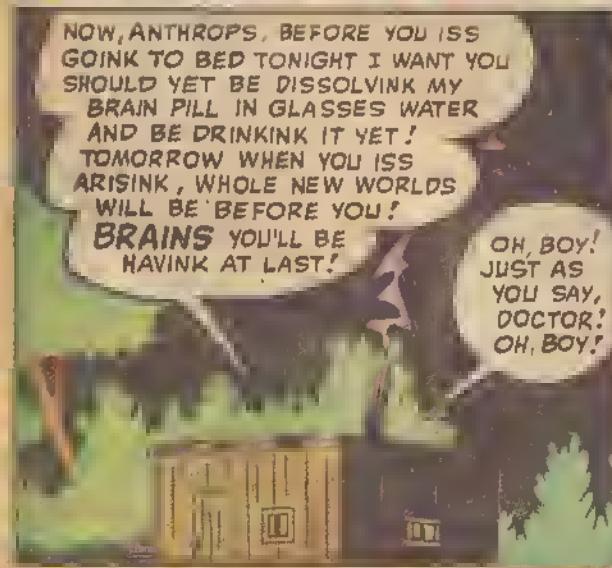
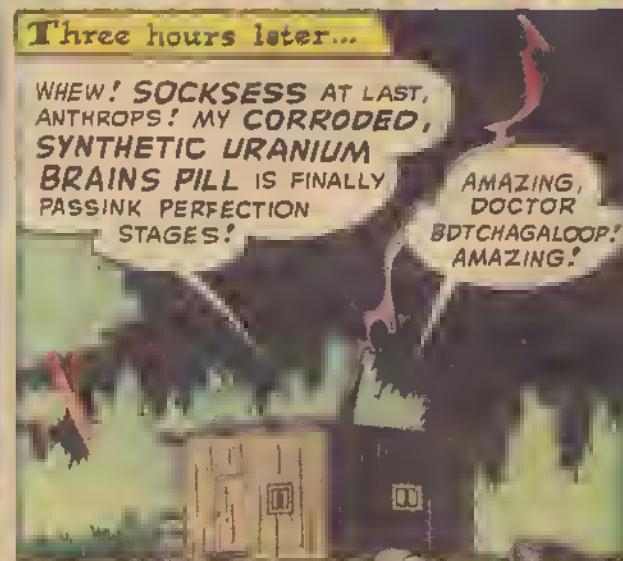
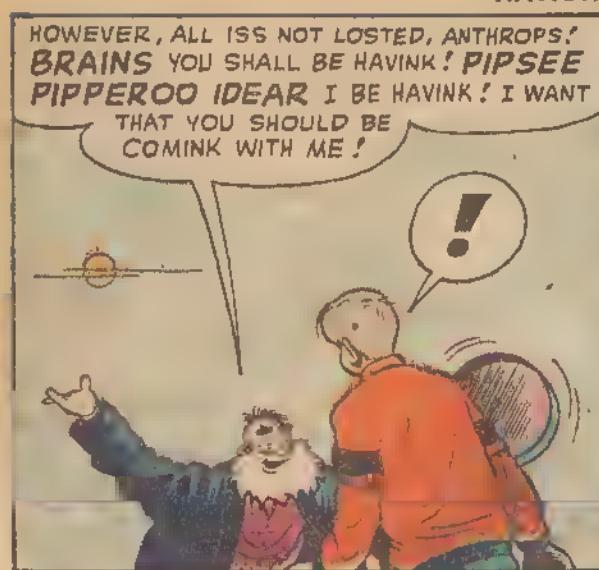
---AIN'T LIKE REST OF  
US! SOB! G-GULP!  
**BATS IN BELLSFRY**  
YOU ISS HAVINK INSTEAD  
OF BRAINS!

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT  
MAKE? LONG AS I GOT  
**SOMETHIN'** UPSTAIRS,  
I ALLUS SAY!

**NO! NO!** ANTHROPS, YOU ISS NOT  
UNDERSTANDINK! REASONS WHY YOU  
ISS GETTINK LOUSY MARKS IN SCHOOL  
IS... IS BECAUSE YOU ISS HAVING  
**BATS IN BELLSFRY AND NOT**  
**BRAINS!**

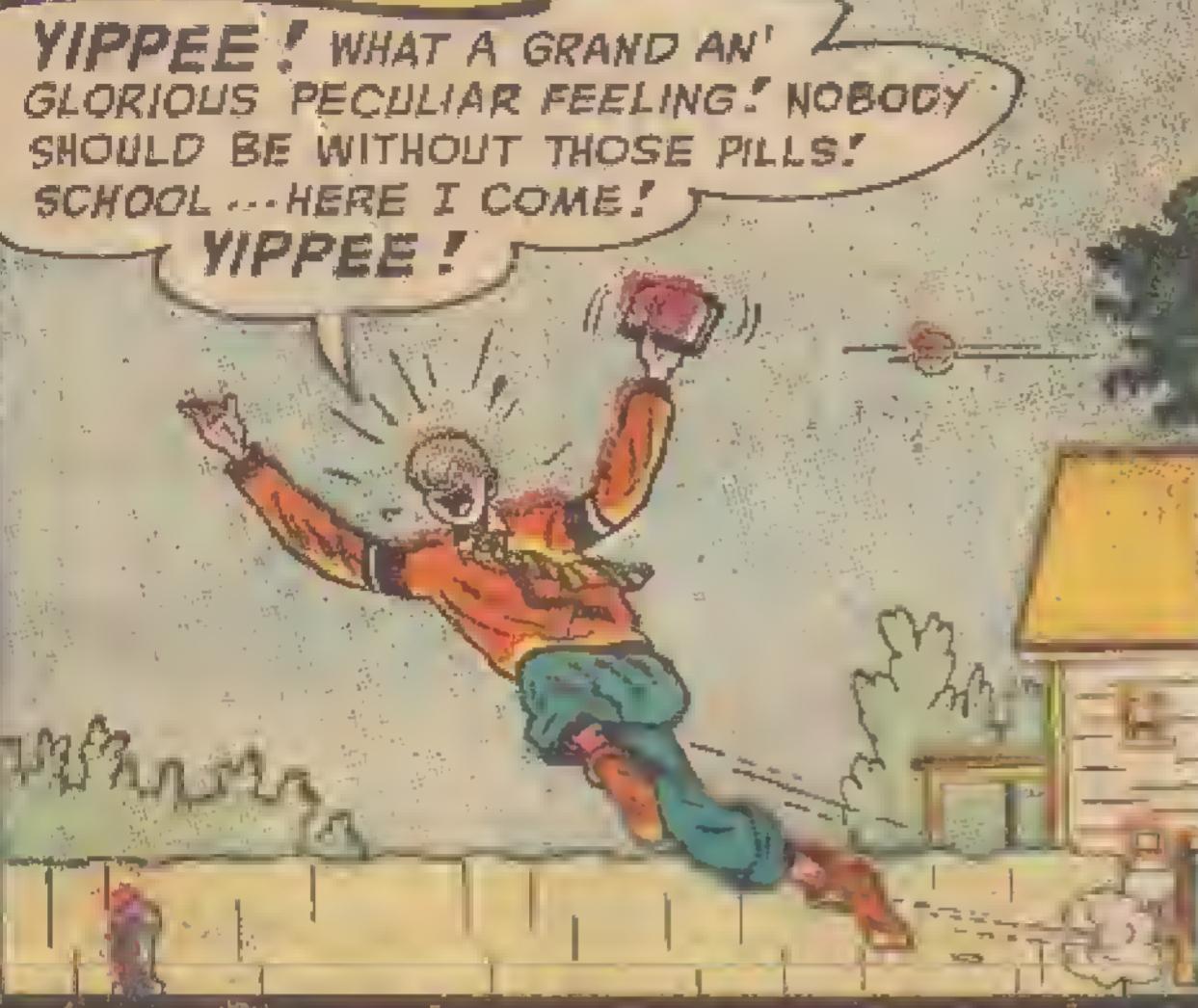
GEE, TANKS FOR TIPPIN' ME  
OFF, DOCTOR BOTCHAGALOOPE!  
I'LL GO BACK AND GET SOME  
BRAINS AND TELL 'EM  
THEY MADE A SLIGHT  
MISTAKE!

SORRY, ANTHROPS! THAT'S HIMPOSSIBLE!  
LAST WEEKS I AM GATTINK **LETTER**  
FROM MISTER BRAINS HIMSELF, HEAD  
OF BRAINS FACTORY... STATINK IS  
BIG STRIKE IN ALL PLANTS!  
HIGHER WAGES THEY IS  
DEMANDINK, NO LESS...



# NATIONAL COMICS

Next morning...



Six hours later...



BOTCHAGALOOP! SOB! THEM BRAINS YOU G-GAVE ME ... SOB! ... IS **NO GOOD!** NOT ONLY DID I GET **ZERO MINUS** IN EVERY SUBJECT... BUT I WAS DEMOTED FROM THE EIGHTH GRADE TO THE

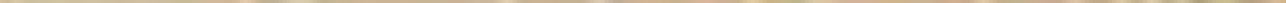
**FOURTH!**  
**WAH!**

**YIPES!**



NOW! NOW! BE CALMINK YOURSELF, ANTHROPS! **SIT DOWN!** LEAVE ME BE GIVINK YOUR NOGGINS ANOTHER X-RAY EXAMINATIONS! COULD BE YET MY BRAIN PILL ISS NEEDINK A LITTLE MORE TIMES TO BE TAKING AFFECTION!

**SOB!**



Ten minutes later...

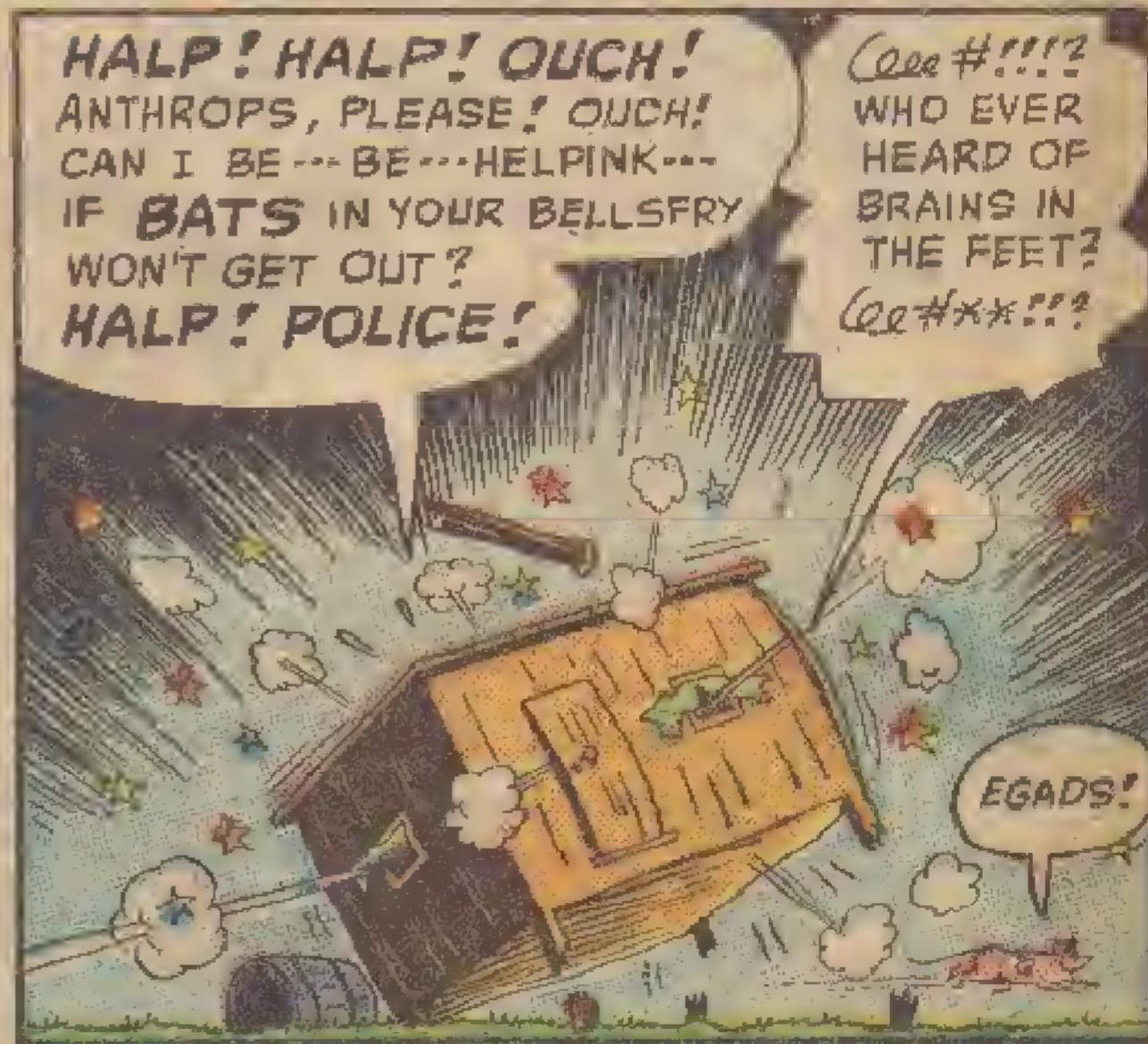
ANTHROPS! AFTER EXAMINATIONS... I AM FINDINK **BRAINS**, BUT NOT IN YOUR NOGGINS! JUST BE GIVINK 'EM A LITTLE TIME TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES IN THEIR NEW HOME! IN DUE TIME THEY WILL BE ACTINK IN NORMAL FASHIONS...



**HALP! HALP! OUCH!**  
ANTHROPS, PLEASE! OUCH!  
CAN I BE --- BE --- HELPINK---  
IF **BATS** IN YOUR BELLSFRY  
WON'T GET OUT?  
**HALP! POLICE!**

*Cee#!!!!*  
WHO EVER HEARD OF BRAINS IN THE FEET?  
*Cee#\*\*\*!!!*

**EGADS!**



# LASSIE

WELL, WHY NOT?  
REMEMBER, YOU'RE  
NOT GOING TO  
REMAIN A LITTLE  
GIRL FOREVER!

NO, I S'POSE I'M  
NOT AS YOUNG AS  
I USED TO BE!

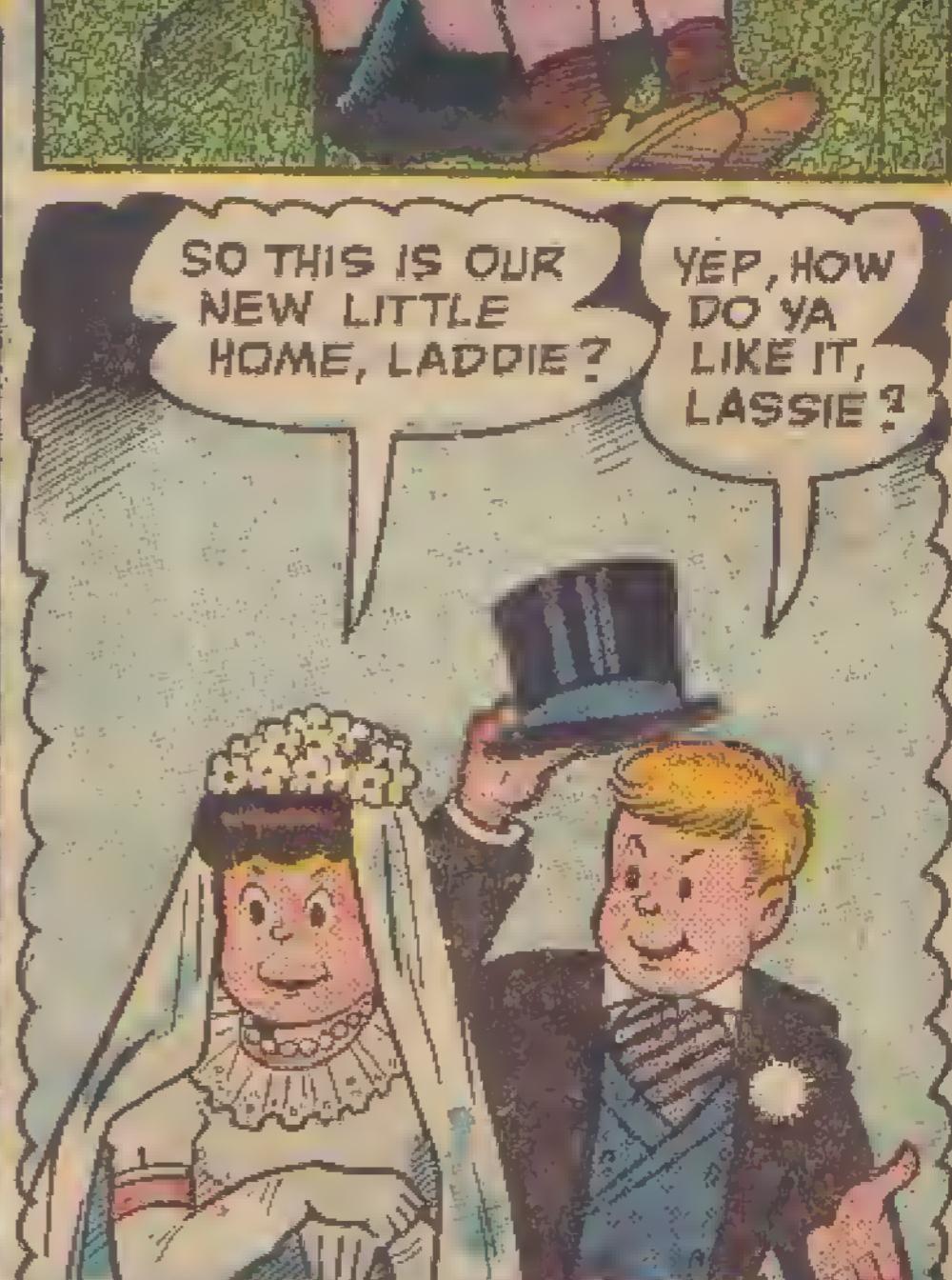
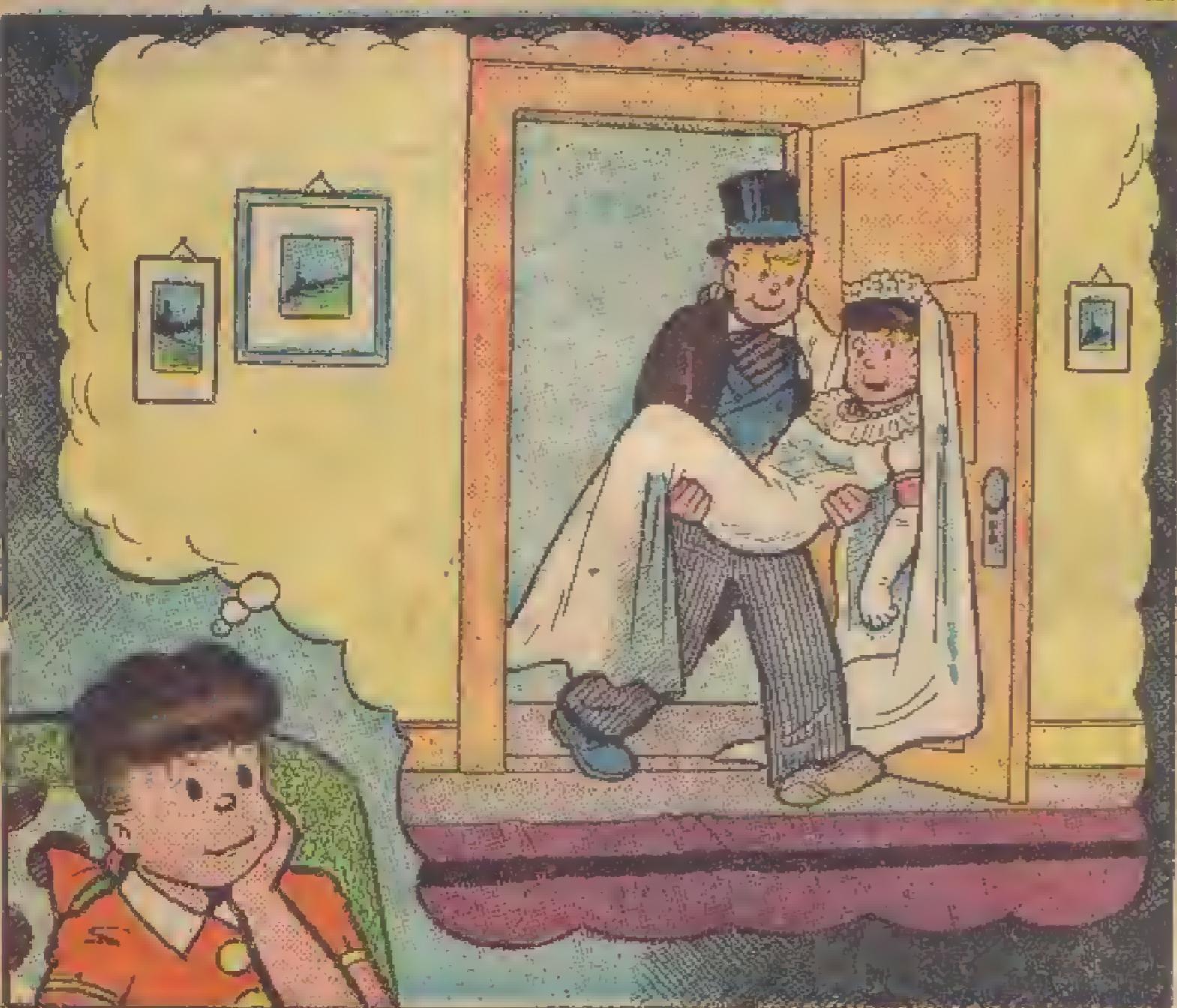
CERTAINLY WE  
SHOULD ALL THINK  
OF THE FUTURE--  
AND PLAN FOR  
IT, TOO!

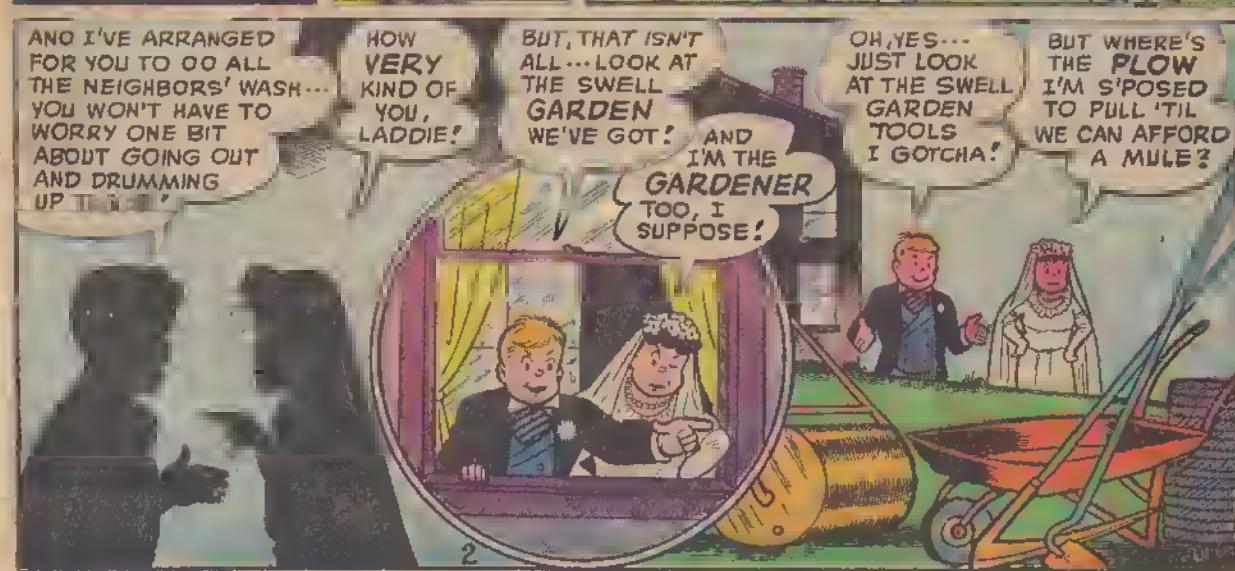
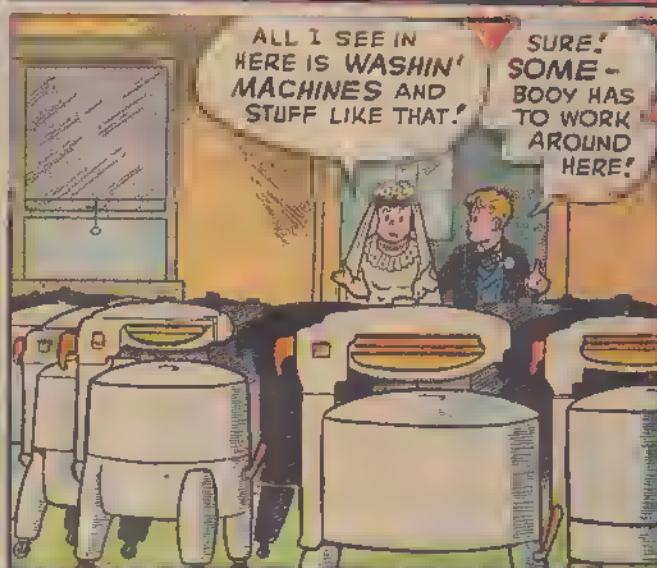
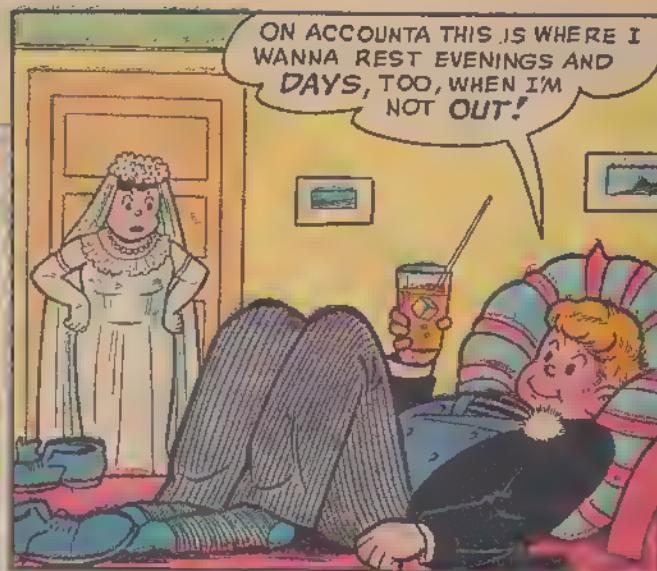
YOU MEAN AT  
MY EARLY  
AGE?

AND I GUESS FUNNY  
THINGS COULD HAPPEN  
TO ME, TOO...LIKE  
SOMEDAY I MIGHT  
FIND MYSELF  
MARRIED!

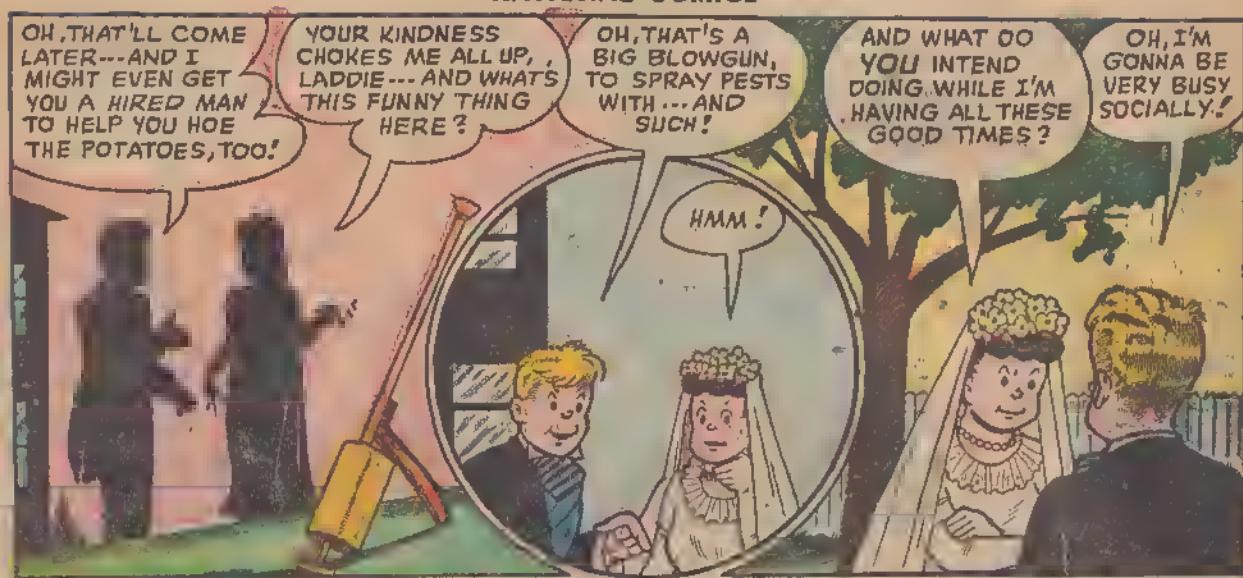
SO THIS IS OUR  
NEW LITTLE  
HOME, LADDIE?

YEP, HOW  
DO YA  
LIKE IT,  
LASSIE?





NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS

WHAT I WANNA KNOW IS  
HOW I EVER CAME TO  
MARRY YOU IN THE  
FIRST PLACE!

WELL, I WAS  
VERY GOOD TO  
YOU, WASN'T I?

I WOKE YOU WITH  
CHAWKLIT CONES  
THAT COST ME A  
DIME APIECE!

SO THAT'S  
WHAT MADE ME  
WEAKEN --- CHAWK'-  
LIT ICE CREAM  
CONES!



# Steve Wood



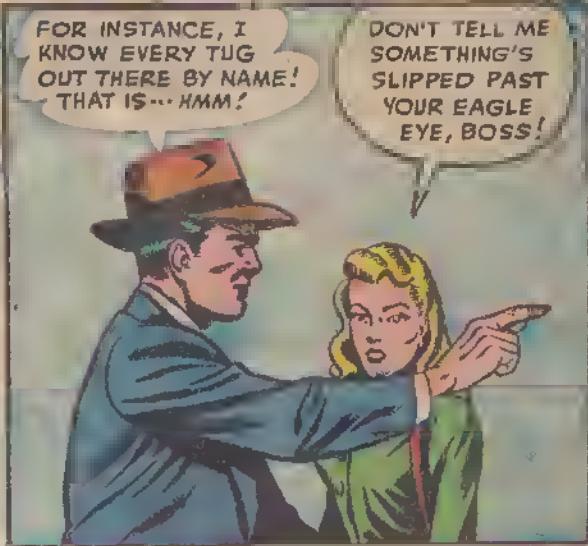
Steve Wood, waterfront detective, meets a terrifying opponent, as he battles CHARON, sinister skipper of THE SHIP THAT ATE MEN!

TALK ABOUT BUSMEN'S HOLIDAYS! CAN'T YOU EVEN SPEND YOUR LUNCH HOUR AWAY FROM THIS HARBOR, STEVE?

HI, SALLY! AS A GOOD SECRETARY, YOU SHOULD BE GLAD YOUR BOSS IS TENDING TO BUSINESS-- AND THIS HARBOR IS MY BUSINESS!

FOR INSTANCE, I KNOW EVERY TUG OUT THERE BY NAME! THAT IS-- HMM!

DON'T TELL ME SOMETHING'S SLIPPED PAST YOUR EAGLE EYE, BOSS!



# NATIONAL COMICS



# NATIONAL COMICS

HUH? WHAT'S A TUG GOT TO DO WITH GETTIN' SHOT AT AND...

IF I'M RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU WHEN I COME FOR THAT REWARD!

HI, POP? GOT A MINUTE? I NEED SOME INFORMATION!

COME ABOARD, STEVE! IF IT'S ABOUT THIS HARBOR I OUGHT TO KNOW! BEEN WORKIN' IT, MAN AND BOY, FOR FORTY YEARS!

--AND THAT'S ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS TUG?

YEP! SHE'S NEW ALL RIGHT! NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE THIS MORNIN'!

'BYE, POP! I'M GOING TO DO A LITTLE PRIVATE INSPECTING OF MY OWN!

GOOD LUCK, SON! SHE'S BERTHED RIGHT DOWN THE PIER!

LOOKS DESERTED! FUNNY... THERE'S NOTHING REALLY DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS TUG, AND YET... WHA...?

CRACK!

WOW! THOSE BOARDS WERE CUT! AND---THE TUG'S MOVING TOWARD ME! GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! I'LL BE CRUSHED!

SPLASH!

IF I CAN ONLY MAKE THE STERN IN TIME---WHOEVER'S AT THE WHEEL OF THIS TUG IS SURE TRYING HIS BEST TO SEE THAT I DON'T MAKE IT!

THUMP! SWISH!

# NATIONAL COMICS

BET I BROKE A SPEED RECORD  
ON THAT SWIM! NOW TO HIDE  
'TIL THEY'RE SURE I'M  
DONE FOR!

...NOBODY WORRIES ABOUT  
A DEAD DETECTIVE! SO I  
THINK I'LL GIVE THEM  
SOMETHING TO WORRY  
ABOUT! HEY...THE  
TUG'S MOVING OUT!

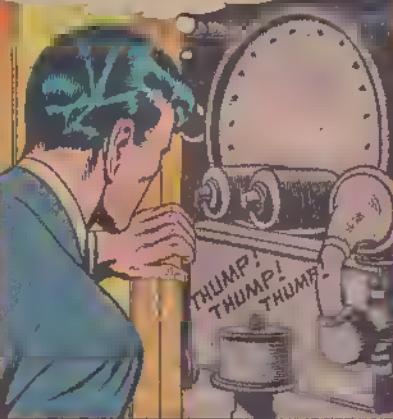
A few minutes later...

THEY MUST BE SURE THEIR  
TRICK WORKED! NOT A SOUL  
ON GUARD! NOW FOR A  
QUICK LOOK AROUND!

HMM! I'D SWEAR THOSE ENGINES  
HAVEN'T BEEN USED FOR YEARS...  
IF I HAON'T JUST HAD VERY  
GOOD PROOF TO THE CONTRARY!  
OH, OH! WHAT'S THAT?

I HID JUST IN  
TIME! AND THAT'S  
MY MAN... CHARON!

IN A FEW MOMENTS YOU CAN  
TAKE OFF YOUR BLINDFOLDS,  
GENTLEMEN! JUST FOLLOW  
ME QUICKLY THROUGH THIS  
HATCH!



THIS HATCH COVER HAS  
A TIME LOCK! HURRY  
ALONG OR YOU'LL BE  
DROWNED WHEN WE  
SUBMERGE!

SUBM... THAT'S IT!  
THAT'S WHY THE TUG  
RODE FUNNY! IT'S JUST  
A PHONY, MOUNTED  
ON THE CONNING  
TOWER OF A  
SUBMARINE!

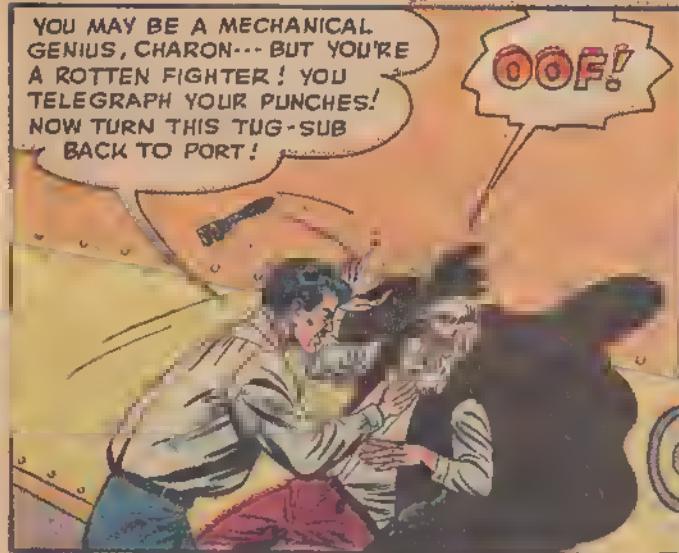


NOT EXACTLY A FAIR FIGHT,  
BUT IT'S NECESSARY... IF  
I'M RIGHT ABOUT THIS  
SETUP!

## NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



# The BARKER AND THE BANDITS

**T**HE Biloxi Belle steamed slowly down the broad, yellow Mississippi, the paddle wheels at her stern turning with monotonous regularity. Aboard the boat was an odd assortment of people and animals—Colonel Lane's Mammoth Circus.

People of the Mississippi bayou country seldom got a glimpse of such a circus. One reason why Col. Lane always enjoyed giving his shows along the Big Muddy. But it had been a long time since he had traveled this circuit.

At nightfall, the show troupe gathered on deck and sang songs, while negro roustabouts hummed background accompaniment. It was all very romantic.

But, when a bullet shattered one of the cabin windows, pandemonium reigned on deck. The shot had not come from the ship, but from a sandbar a quarter-mile off the starboard side. The Biloxi Belle's captain had seen the flash from his wheelhouse.

He announced that they would pull over to the sandbar, and everybody was tense and ready for some excitement. He explained that folks sometimes got stranded on the bars, and would starve if not taken off. The shot, he said, had probably been fired to attract the Biloxi Belle's attention.

Carnie Calahan, the barker for Col. Lane's Circus, was probably the only man who complained about the captain's curiosity. He didn't know why he felt it would be dangerous to alter the course of the ship, but he spoke about it to the Colonel.

"But it's happened before, probably many times," Col. Lane said. "What are you worried about?"

"I don't know, Colonel," Carnie replied. "I just am. Call it intuition, or something."

The big searchlight on the bow picked out their destination in short order. The island was really a large bar, covered with tall reeds. On it, there was no sign of anyone, or any boat. Even when the captain tooted his whistle, there was no response.

"The poor devil is probably either hurt or too weak to signal," he said to Carnie and the Colonel, as they watched from the wheelhouse. But Carnie Calahan didn't share the captain's opinion.

The boat edged in close to the island's shore. Still there was no movement on the bar. A couple of sailors leaped to the sand and began scouting through the reeds, calling out that help was at hand.

But suddenly two dozen unshaven, heavily armed men jumped out from the reeds. They leaped on board the ship and got the drop on everybody before the crew and passengers knew what was happening.

"What's the meaning of this?" roared the captain. "It's piracy, that's what it is—and I'll have your hides for it!"

"Shut up, you old goat!" retorted one of the boarders. "We ain't gonna hurt anybody if they do like we say. But we'll blast the fust one who tries any monkeyshines! Understand?" The man, a big bearded fellow, surveyed the group with an evil leer.

"What do you want?" demanded the captain.

"We want the money that's in the circus man's safe, that's what we want," said the big man, evidently the leader of the band, "An' we want it now! Where's Colonel Lane?"

The colonel stepped forward. "I am Colonel Lane," he said quietly. "And you may have the money if you'll promise not to harm anyone."

Several members of the boarding party laughed raucously.

"Lissen to him!" cried one. "He's tellin' us what we should and shouldn't do—an' us with the guns!"

But the bandit leader had not figured on the plucky caliber of Col. Lane's show troupe. As he followed the Colonel across the deck, he walked smack into a heavy body. Down on the deck he went, the breath knocked out of him.

It was Lena, the fat lady, who pretending to be unaware of the situation, attempted to apologize as the leader struggled to his feet.

"Wha's a matter wit' you, you big hunk?" demanded the irate pirate. "Fer a penny I'd let some air into that balloon you use fer a carcass!"

Lena only smiled as she waddled out of his way.

The leader lurched on, following Col. Lane,

## NATIONAL COMICS

who had reached his ticket wagon in the stern of the ship. The colonel was puffing mightily as he mounted the wagon's six steps and went inside. A dim light over his desk revealed the safe in its customary corner.

The bandit leader clumped up the steps and peered inside. Spotting the safe, he grunted with satisfaction.

"Get her open, quick!" he snapped. He flourished his gun.

Just then several large snakes began wriggling across the floor of the wagon, slithering toward the bandit. Wide-eyed, he let out a yowl, and began firing wildly at the floor.

Several of his mob raced along the deck, attracted by the noise. All of them brandished guns and knives.

But just then the bandit leader fell out of the ticket wagon on his back, and Shali, the snake charmer, hiding behind some drapes in the wagon, chuckled softly. Her snakes had performed just right. The big thug was scared to death of them.

"Shali, are you there?" asked Col. Lane.

"Yes, Colonel," Shali said. "How did you like the little snake stunt?"

"Fine," said the Colonel, "but what good can it do? They'll all be here in a moment." The colonel was visibly disturbed.

Now another voice spoke, from a small window over the colonel's desk: "Take it easy, Colonel," came the advice. "We have another little surprise planned!"

It was Spudo, the four-armed man.

When someone began firing a revolver out on deck, Spudo, who had poked his head through the window, withdrew it and disappeared.

All this action had taken place with only deck lights to illuminate the scene. Now the lights went out all over the ship, and darkness hid the ship and the river beyond.

Then fighting broke out among members of the boarding party. They didn't know whether they were tangling with friend or enemy, so, eager for a scrap, they tangled with the nearest person.

"This is what I'd hoped for," whispered Carnie Calahan to Major Midge, the midget of the show. "You run this line around the colonel's wagon and hurry back here. Be quiet about it. Not that those devils would hear you right now."

"Okay, Carnie," said Midge. "I'm off."

While Midge was thus engaged, Tiny, the strong man, was also busy. He had broken out

some special stores seldom used by the circus, but effective, he thought, for this kind of emergency. Now he quickly and silently set these up, ready for use.

Meantime the barker hooked electric wires to three long tubes pointing upward from the stern of the ship. Then he attached a fuse to the thin line Major Midge had tied around the Colonel's wagon.

But the fighting had died down among the bandits, because their eyes had now become accustomed to the sudden darkness. Organized again, they began yelling for their leader.

"Hey, Meggs, where the devil are you?" yelled one.

"Turn on them lights!" another shouted.

But the darkness still reigned aboard the Biloxi Belle.

Up in the wheelhouse the captain was nervously waiting for the barker to put his plan in action. The captain wasn't at all sure that it would work, but there was nothing else to do but let Carnie try it. He sat near the speaking tube near the wheel. A voice came over it abruptly.

"Yes," said the captain.

It was the voice of the barker. "We're all set, Captain!" Carnie said. "You be ready with the searchlight. Major Midge will set off the fireworks. Here goes!"

Suddenly a blinding flash of green fire swooped around the colonel's ticket wagon like a coil of emerald flame. Simultaneously, three red rockets soared high into the sky, breaking and falling in a startling display of red brilliance.

The panicky bandits yelled and roared. The flash caught Meggs, their leader, just as he was tugging the safe through the door of the ticket wagon. He stood out in the green brilliance like some grotesque bear.

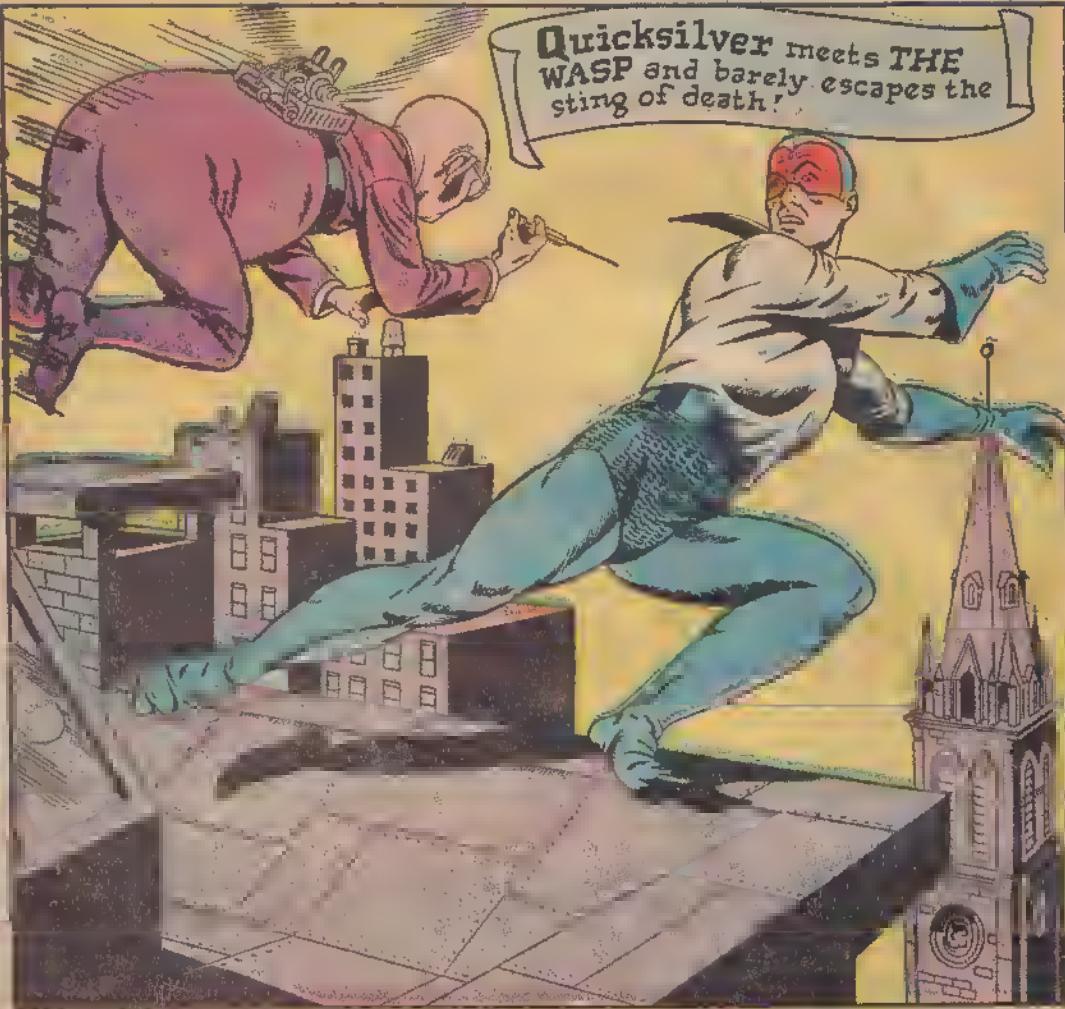
Meggs whirled, his eyes blazing in the glow of greenness.

Before he could speak, several shots rang out from the direction of the river. Then the deck was swept by the ship's powerful searchlight. It caught the bandits standing in various attitudes of complete surprise.

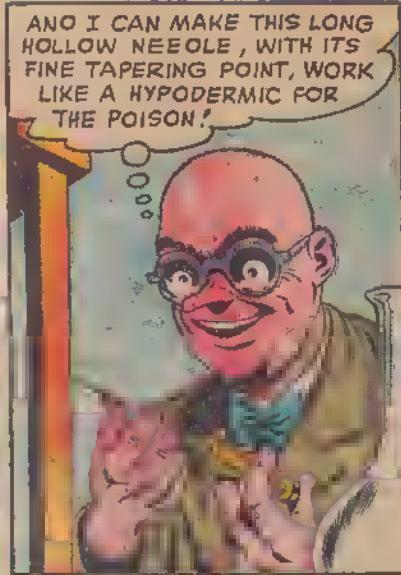
Over the rail poured a dozen river policemen. They had worked their boat up noiselessly to the side of the ship. It was a complete coup. The police covered the shaggy men and disarmed them. In a moment they were helpless prisoners.

"Well," said the barker, "that's the first time Colonel Lane's Mammoth Circus used fireworks to foil a bunch of pirates."

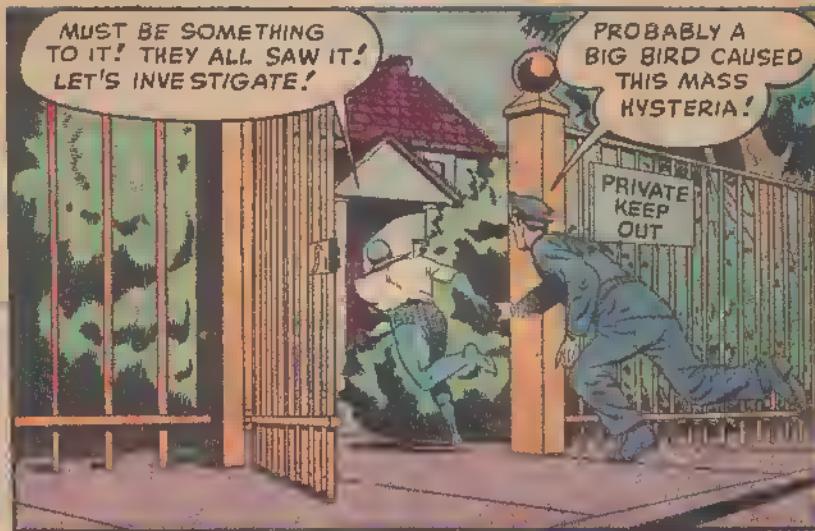
# QUICKSILVER



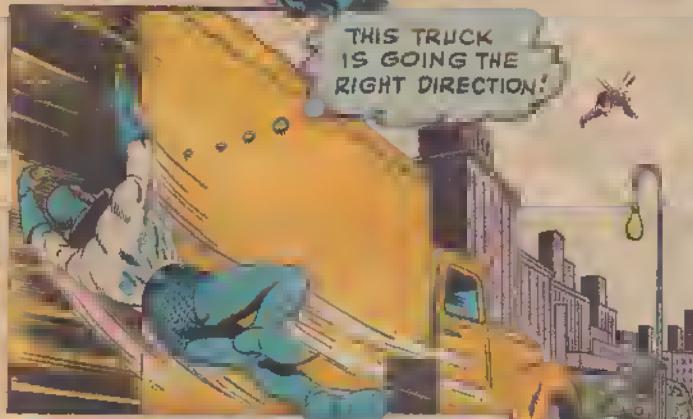
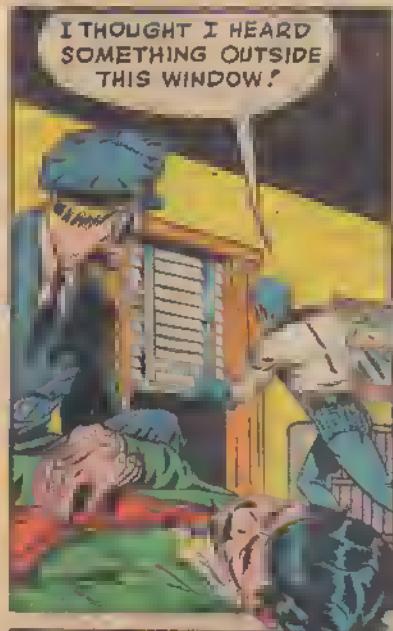
NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS



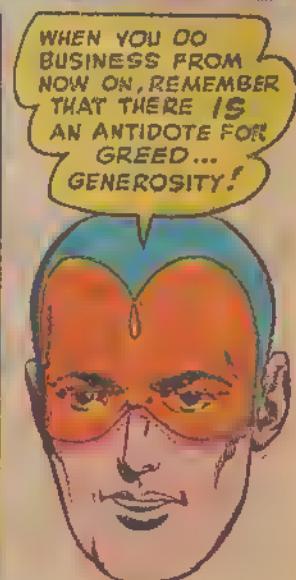
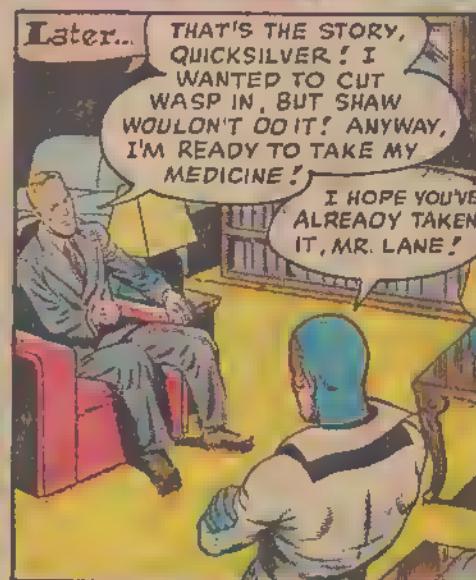
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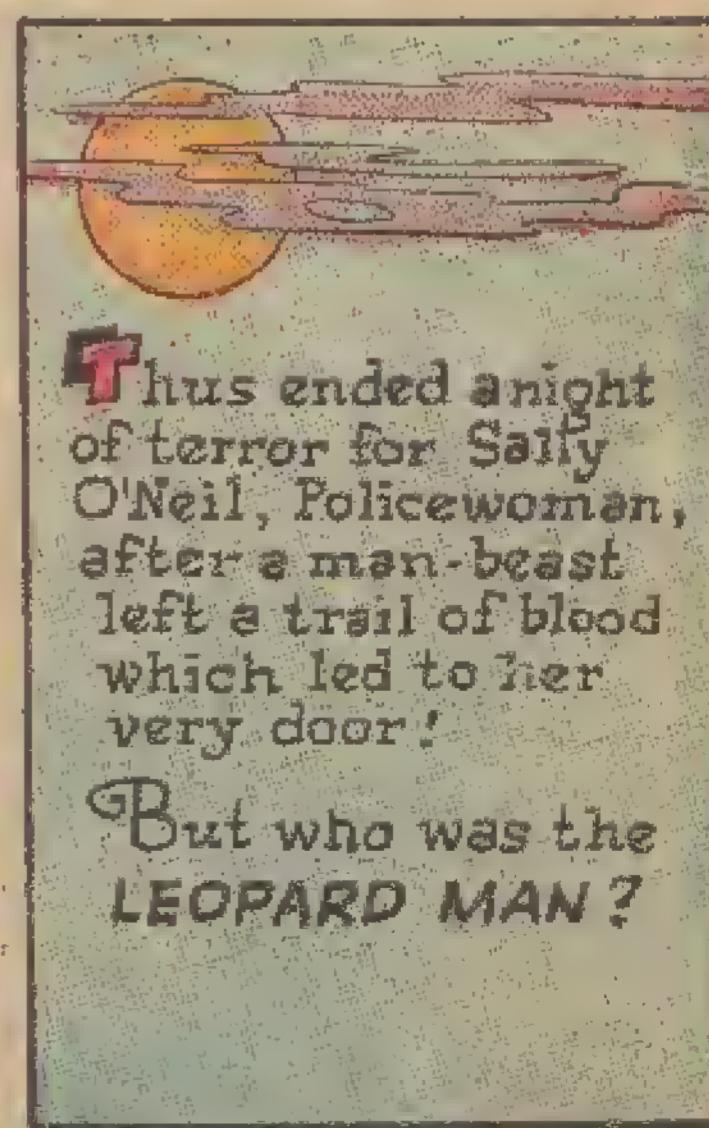


NATIONAL COMICS



NATIONAL COMICS

# Sally O'NEIL



It all began many miles away...

ANOTHER LETTER FROM SANDERS! EACH COMES FROM A DIFFERENT CITY, WITH A POST-OFFICE BOX FOR RETURN ADDRESS!

WELL, THIS IS THE ANSWER HE'S GETTING FROM ME!

I don't have the money you demand, I am sending a check for two hundred dollars. All I have left after you and kill you. Ha-ha.

"FIND YOU AND KILL YOU"! WHY NOT? AFTER NINE YEARS OF TORMENT, WHY NOT?

A few nights later, Sally O'Neil attends the theatre...

AN EXCELLENT ANIMAL ACT!

YES! HE WAS ALWAYS GOOD WITH CATS!

WELL, BACK TO THE BEAT!

SANDU IS SANDERS, ALL RIGHT! I'VE FOUND HIM -- NOW I'M GOING TO KILL HIM! I'VE LAID MY PLANS CAREFULLY!

SALLY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE! GO TO THE STAR THEATRE ... THERE'S A LEOPARD ON THE LOOSE!

WHAT?

This week  
mammoth  
stage show  
featuring

**SANDU**  
THE LEOPARD MAN

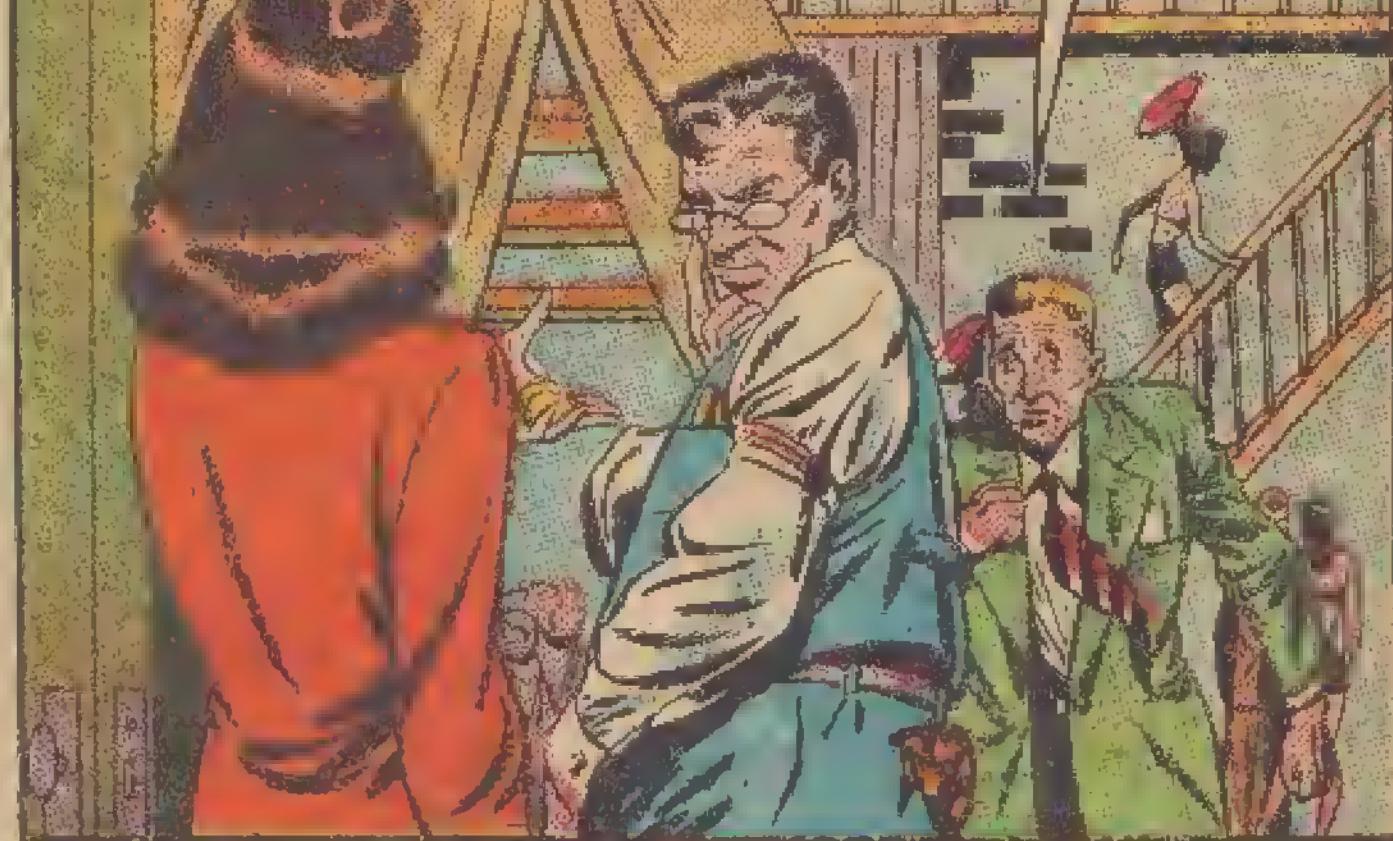
# NATIONAL COMICS

I JUST GOT THE CALL?  
I'M SENDING THE ENTIRE  
FORCE ON A BIG-GAME  
HUNT!

I LEFT THERE  
LESS THAN AN  
HOUR AGO! BUT  
BACK I GO!

I'M SALLY O'NEIL FROM  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS.  
I WANT TO SEE...

I'M SANDY! I'VE  
BEEN EXPECTING  
YOU!

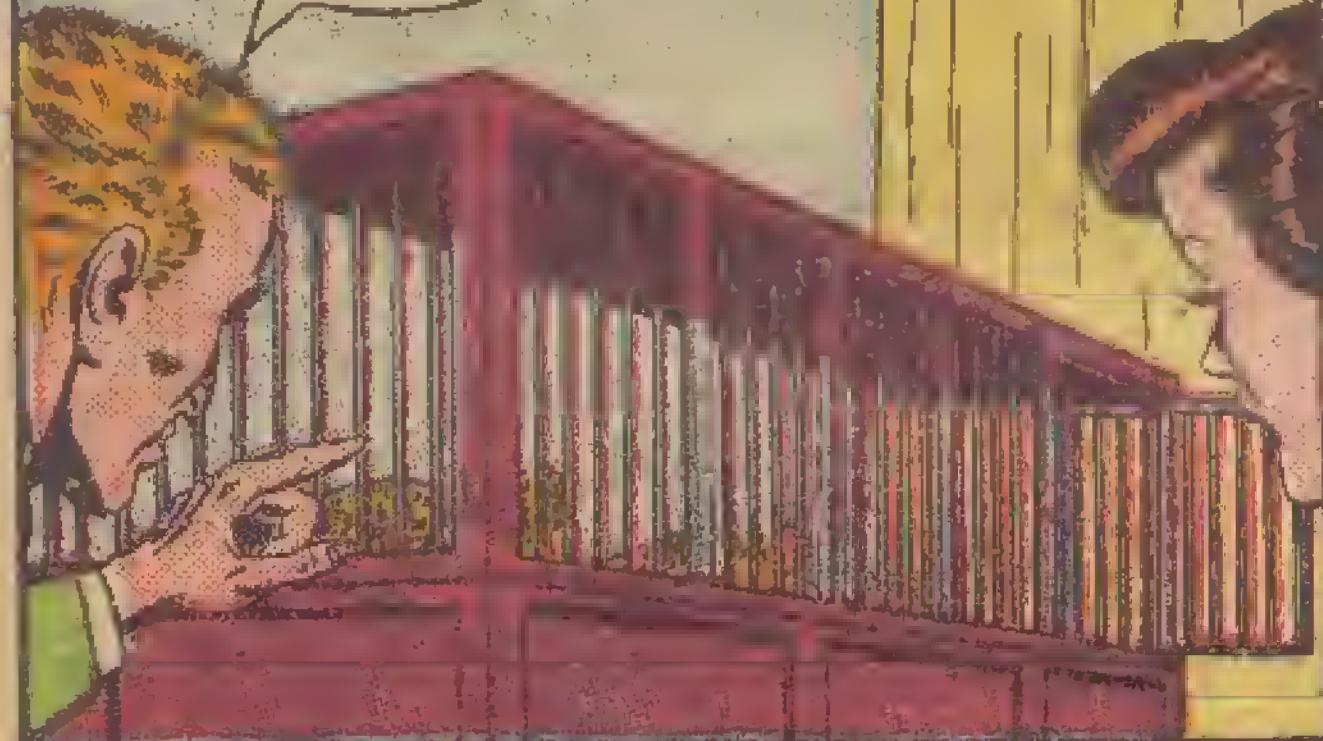


AFTER MY PERFORMANCE, I  
WENT TO MY DRESSING ROOM  
AND CHANGED CLOTHES! MY  
CAGE BOY WENT OUT TO  
EAT! WHEN HE RETURNED  
--- THE LEOPARD WAS  
GONE!

YOU'D BETTER  
HOP ON HIM  
FOR NEGLIGENCE!

I HOPE WE  
CAN CAPTURE  
THE ANIMAL  
ALIVE!

ALICE WOULDN'T HARM  
ANYONE! SHE'S AS GENTLE  
AS A KITTEN! SHE'S A  
LOVABLE AND VALUABLE  
BEAST... THAT'S WHY  
I'M WORRIED ABOUT  
HER!



HAINES!

SANDERS, YOUR  
BLACKMAIL RACKET  
WENT TOO FAR! NOW  
I'M GOING TO KILL  
YOU! I TURNED  
YOUR LEOPARD  
LOOSE TO TAKE  
THE BLAME!

YOU WERE MY CAGE BOY  
WHEN MY PARTNER WAS  
KILLED IN THE ACT! YOU  
SAW TOO MUCH.... I'VE BEEN  
PAYING EVER SINCE! YOU  
EVEN TOOK MY ACT, BUT  
YOU'VE GIVEN YOUR LAST  
PERFORMANCE!



HERE'S MY CHECK!  
BUT I MUST FIND MY  
LETTER, TOO! IT  
COULD BE USED  
AS EVIDENCE  
AGAINST ME!





NATIONAL COMICS

HE DROPPED A --- WHAT'S THIS? HMM --- IT APPEARS SANDU'S BEEN BLACK-MAILING SOMEONE NAMED HAINES!

SANDU! COME BACK! YOU'RE ON IN THREE MINUTES!

OH---ER---SURE!

I USED TO HANDLE AN ANIMAL ACT! I'LL DO IT! THEN I CAN LEAVE UNNOTICED WHEN IT'S OVER!



TH-THEY FOUND THE LEOPARD!

YOU SEEM UPSET! COULD IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS NOTE YOU DROPPED?

Alice

GRRR!



GIVE THAT TO ME!

SANDU! I WENT TO CALL YOU... AND... LON IS IN YOUR PRESSING ROOM... DEAD!



SANDU... STOP!



KELLY, QUICK! STOP SANDU!

HE'S BEEN STOPPED, SALLY... BY THE LEOPARD! WE FOUND HIM... CLAWED TO DEATH!



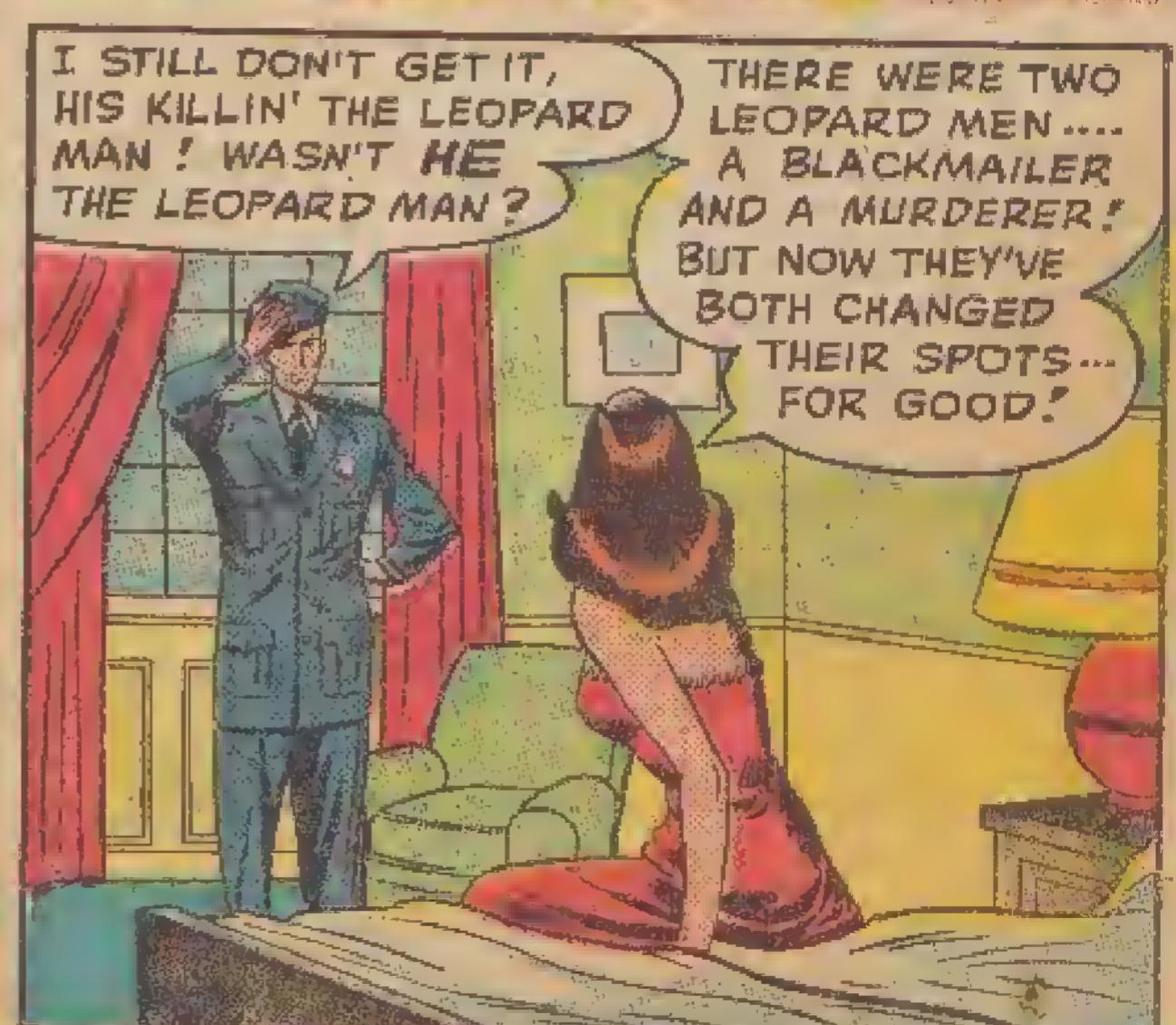
OUR KILLER IS NOT GENTLE ALICE! BUT IT COULD BE HAINES, THE WRITER OF THIS NOTE!

TWO MEN HAVE BEEN MURDERED AND WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE MURDERER LOOKS LIKE --- OR WHERE TO FIND HIM!



# NATIONAL COMICS

THEN WE MUST ARRANGE FOR HIM TO COME TO US! DO AS I SAY, KELLY, AND WE MAY SOON CATCH OUR KILLER!



# WOW!

LOOK AT JOE GO ON  
HIS NEW BIKE!



SURE,  
IT'S GOT A NEW  
**Bendix**  
COASTER BRAKE!

DAD SAYS BENDIX MAKES  
BRAKES FOR CARS, TRUCKS AND  
PLANES, TOO!



NO WONDER JOE'S  
BIKE PEDALS EASIER,  
COASTS LONGER  
AND STOPS  
QUICKER!



If you want the latest and finest coaster brake, be sure that your new bike has a Bendix Coaster Brake. It is made by America's leading brake manufacturer and has all kinds of new features. You'll find bicycle riding a lot more fun with a Bendix Coaster Brake!

#### JUST LOOK AT THESE FEATURES

Longer life — Dependable performance —  
Fewer parts — Easy to put together and  
take apart — Sealed against dirt and water.

LOOK  
for the  
NAME



ECLIPSE MACHINE DIVISION of  
ELMIRA, NEW YORK

  
**Bendix**  
AVIATION CORPORATION

# NEW! Jim Prentice SENSATIONAL, NEW 1949 IT'S A HIT! ELECTRIC BASEBALL

Made and Guaranteed by ELECTRIC GAME CO., INC., 422 Front St., Holyoke, Mass.

BOYS! NOW YOU CAN PLAY  
BASEBALL ANYTIME - DAY  
OR NIGHT, COME RAIN,  
SLEET OR SNOW!

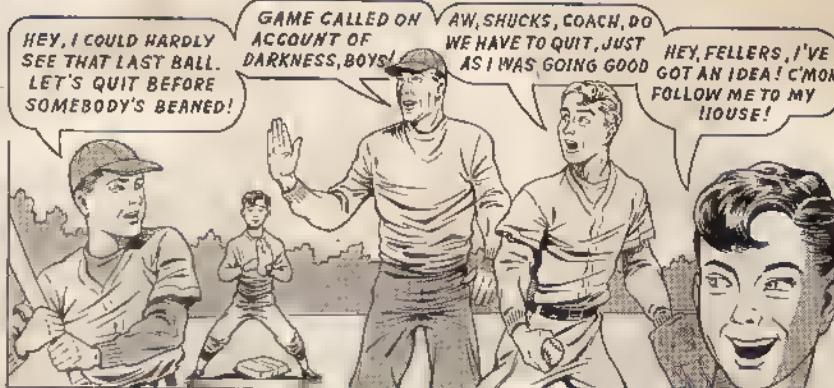
SAYS  
DAD...  
THE COACH

HEY, I COULD HARDLY  
SEE THAT LAST BALL.  
LET'S QUIT BEFORE  
SOMEBODY'S BEANED!

GAME CALLED ON  
ACCOUNT OF  
DARKNESS, BOYS!

AW, SHUCKS, COACH, DO  
WE HAVE TO QUIT, JUST  
AS I WAS GOING GOOD

HEY, FELLERS, I'VE  
GOT AN IDEA! C'MON  
FOLLOW ME TO MY  
HOUSE!



WE CAN CONTINUE  
PLAYING ON THIS  
INDOOR ELECTRIC  
BASEBALL GAME!

HEY, THAT'S  
KEEN!

OH, BOY!  
LET'S GO!

I LIKE THE WAY THE PITCHER  
CONTROLS THE SPEED OF THE  
BALL! THE BAT CONTACT IS TRIGGER  
FAST! EACH PLAYER MUST BE  
WIDE AWAKE. YES! THE AMAZING  
ELECTRIC "BRAIN"  
FLASHES ALL THE PLAYS!  
IT'S JUST LIKE BIG  
LEAGUE BASEBALL!

WE WANT A  
HOME RUN!

STRIKE HIM  
OUT!

I'LL PLAY THE WINNER, SON.  
THAT LOOKS LIKE THE BEST  
GAME I'VE EVER SEEN,  
AND IT CAN'T BE  
CALLED ON ACCOUNT  
OF DARKNESS!

WATCH MY  
FAST BALL!



Big

14 x 16 in.

STEEL BALL  
MOVES IN PLAY

LAMPS LIGHT  
TO SHOW  
TO PLAY

Hi, Fellers!

This great invention brings you all the fun, fast action, and zooming enthusiasm of sandlot games. Let's play ... it's the last of the 9th ... score tied ... bases loaded. You are the last man up with 3 balls and 2 strikes. The next pitch is it! Will you WHAM or WHIFF the breeze? Hero or dud? Better must be sharp to "catch" the steel ball as it rings through the slot at homeplate. He learns the fine points, when to bunt, smash it or sacrifice. The play of the game packs every minute full of spine-tingling thrills, breath-taking excitement, just like big league ball games. And, you will never get enough, though you play it 1000 times. Size 14 x 16 in. with big yellow frame, substantially built.

**Special Price!** If you act today you can get your game at the special pre-season price of \$3.00, complete with new extra long-life (one-piece) battery, ready to play. Or, if you prefer, pay \$1.00 on this ad and pay the postman the balance \$2.00 on delivery. WE PAY POSTAGE AND COLLECTION CHARGES.

\$3.00  
POSTPAID

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE 5 DAYS TRIAL**

ELECTRIC GAME CO., INC.  
422 Front St., Holyoke, Mass.

\$3.00	\$2.50
BASEBALL	FOOTBALL

C.O.D. Send \$1. Postman collects balance.

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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State \_\_\_\_\_

OUTS  
RECORDER

UMPIRE  
RULES ON  
CLOSE PLAYS

LONG LIFE  
BATTERY

ALL GAMES POSTPAID

# "U.S. ROYAL

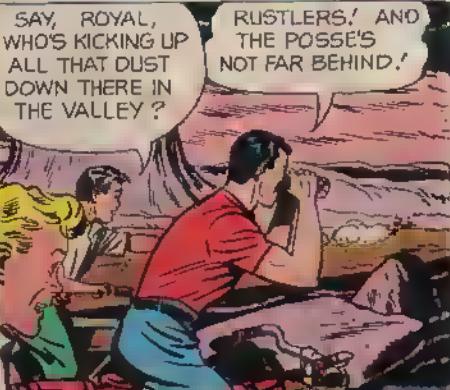
WITH HIS  
JET-PROPELLED BIKE



"ROUNDING UP  
THE RUSTLERS"



WHILE VACATIONING OUT WEST, DEPUTY U.S. ROYAL AND THE BOYS OF THE ELM CITY BIKE CLUB ARE ENJOYING THE SIGHTS, WHEN SUDDENLY...



AND AS ROYAL WATCHES THE CHASE THROUGH HIS GLASSES, HE SEES...

GOOD! THE POSSE CAN'T FIGURE WHICH WAY WE WENT!

WELL, KEEP RIDIN'... WE AIN'T SAFE TILL WE GET THROUGH THE GORGE UP AHEAD...

FELLAS, YOU TWO BIKE DOWN AND TELL THE POSSE TO HEAD FOR THE GORGE...I'LL HAVE A NICE SURPRISE THERE WAITING FOR THEM!



NOW IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE TOP OF THAT GORGE BEFORE THOSE CATTLE-THEIVES GET TO THE BOTTOM!



I MADE IT! THESE ROCKS WILL FORCE THEM TO TURN BACK...RIGHT INTO THE HANDS OF THE POSSE!



BDYS, LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE PUT AN END TO THIS RUSTLIN' RACKET...THAT WAS MIGHTY FAST WORK ON YOUR PART!

YOU MEAN MIGHTY FAST BIKING... THANKS TO OUR U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES!



FELLAS, SPEED AND SAFETY ARE REALLY "BUILT INTO" U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES-- WITH THEIR SPECIAL BUILT-IN SKID CHAIN.



"TAKE MY TIP ON BIKE TIRES-- TAKE THE TIRE WITH THE BUILT-IN SKID CHAIN"...SAYS U.S. ROYAL



IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE OF FIRM FOOTING... SAFE, QUICK STOPS...MAXIMUM MILEAGE... PERFECT CONTROL--BE SURE TO GET U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES. THAT SPECIAL BUILT-IN SKID CHAIN MAKES THEM TOPS IN TIRES.

**U. S.  
BIKE TIRES**

America's Fastest Selling Tires



UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY  
Serving Through Science